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MANAGER:
MARTIN JOL



"WE ARE EXPECTING A TOUGH ENCOUNTER TODAY WITH PRESSURE ON BOTH SIDES TO GET A RESULT."

MARTIN'S MESSAGE

Good afternoon and welcome again to the Cottage for this afternoon's important Barclays Premier League match against Bolton Wanderers.

As is customary, I would like to welcome Owen Coyle, his backroom staff and the visiting directors and fans of Bolton here today.

Firstly, I would like to share my disappointment at Wednesday evening's exit from the UEFA Europa League. The sense of frustration in the dressing room following the match was palpable as every single player wanted to progress to the knockout stages of the competition.

To be denied in the final seconds of the game was a bitter pill to swallow, but we must also take responsibility for some naive play that led to both the first goal and then the equaliser, which culminated in us being usurped by Wisla Krakow, who took second place in the group and qualified.

I am always inclined to try to take the positives from performances whatever the result, and goals from both Clint Dempsey and Kerim Frei enable me to do this. They were both good finishes from exciting attacking play and, overall, the first-half performance was one that we should be very pleased with.

I made a number of changes to the line-up and there were players on the pitch that really wanted to make a good impression as they haven't played many games for the Club. Again, on the whole, I think we did well but we let ourselves down in the second-half and allowed them back into the

game. Obviously, at that point they had nothing to lose and pressed us hard, forcing us to defend more, but as we searched for the decisive goal, it ultimately fell to them on a counter-attack, in the dying seconds.

Of course, the Barclays Premier League is the most important thing to us, and as I said pre-match, I would rather take three points today than a win last Wednesday, but that does not make the disappointment of defeat any easier to take, especially for you, the fans, as I know how much the European journey meant to you all.

Bolton will come here looking to maximise on our recent defeats as they, too, need all the points they can muster with a busy Christmas period coming up and their current league position at the foot of the table. So we are expecting a tough encounter today with pressure on both sides to get a result.

They are another team that could argue, like us, that their performances have not been reflected in points and position, so we know that they will want to start turning things around as quickly as possible. They have a good team of players and play decent football, so it should be a good match this afternoon.

I am pleased to say that we are getting players back to full fitness again with the return of Danny Murphy for today's match. Steve Sidwell is still recovering from the operation he had, but we're hopeful he'll be available to train again in a week.

Obviously it is a huge blow to lose Mark Schwarzer at any point in the season, but the compression injury

to his spine will require some rest and a gradual return to training over the next four to six weeks. There's no denying he's an important player for us, but David Stockdale is a worthy replacement and I believe he will have been helped enormously by getting game time at Ipswich on loan. I think it's worth mentioning that Neil Etheridge did a good job on his full debut last Wednesday night too, and that the goalkeeper situation is one I am pleased with even in this difficult period.

There are a lot of important games coming up and we want to make sure that we give ourselves a platform today from which to build upon. We want to make sure that, regardless of the tough opposition we have coming up, that we enter the second half of the season in a decent position in the league, and with a full complement of players to help us through the second phase.

I know that today there will be another full house here at the Cottage which is fantastic to see, and I am fully supportive of the Club's Kids for a Quid initiative which I'm told has encouraged more than 2,000 junior supporters to join us here this afternoon. I hope they will be very vocal as we need your support more than ever today.

Get behind the boys and enjoy the game.

Martin Jol, Manager.



Merry Christmas from Fulham

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CAPTAIN:
DANNY MURPHY

"WE NEED TO START THE GAME BRIGHTLY AND GET YOU FANS EXCITED."

IT'S TIME FOR A STRONG REACTION

There has obviously been huge disappointment around the place since the draw with Odense on Wednesday evening put us out of Europe.

It was a shock to everybody, especially having been cruising at 2-0 in the first-half. It's easy to say now, but we should have scored more goals, killed the game off and never let them back into it.

Even though we can point to certain moments throughout the campaign that didn't go our way, like the defeat in Krakow, the lad cheating to get Mousa sent off, or a bit of bad luck when Twente got their equaliser here at the Cottage, the simple fact is that we should have, on the night, beaten that team comfortably and qualified. There are no excuses. We have to hold up our hands, look at the reasons why we didn't and learn from them.

There's no point in trying to paper over any cracks. The fact is, it was hugely disappointing and we've only ourselves to blame. But in football you

have to react strongly when you have bad results and bad performances, so that's what we intend to do.

We now have to focus on the Premier League, so I suppose it is partly a good thing that we don't have the burden of all the extra games. Don't get me wrong, that's certainly not a big positive, but it is a minor consolation that we will have more time to prepare for each league game, especially when we are in a bit of a precarious position and in need of points on the board.

All that said, overall recently I do feel we've been playing reasonably well – at home in particular. Even though we haven't garnered the amount of points we would have liked here, there hasn't been a home league performance that I can remember that was unacceptable, and long may that continue because we know this is where we have to get the majority of our results.

So we're looking forward to today's game for a chance to put things right and put a smile back on the fans' faces. They'll be hurting as much

as we are, because they know how enjoyable the Europa League can be in the latter stages.

Of course, as with any game in the Premier League we have to be wary of who we're up against. Bolton are in a bit of trouble themselves so we know for sure that they're going to fight and give everything they've got to try and get out of that position for their manager, Owen Coyle.

To be fair to them, the fixture list gave them a very tough start, with Manchester City, United, Liverpool, Arsenal and Chelsea amongst their first seven games, so I'm sure they'll now be thinking there are fixtures coming up that they can get points from, and we have to make sure that doesn't start against us.

Like every team in this league they pose their dangers. Up front Kevin Davies – an old striking partner of mine from my England youth days – is a big handful that gives everyone he plays against a battle. Ivan Klasnic is scoring goals too, even though they're struggling, so we'll have to be on our guard, keep playing to the level we have been playing at the Cottage and make sure we don't let Wednesday's disappointment hang over us. We need to start the game brightly and hopefully get you fans excited.

Please get behind the lads today.

Danny Murphy, Captain.



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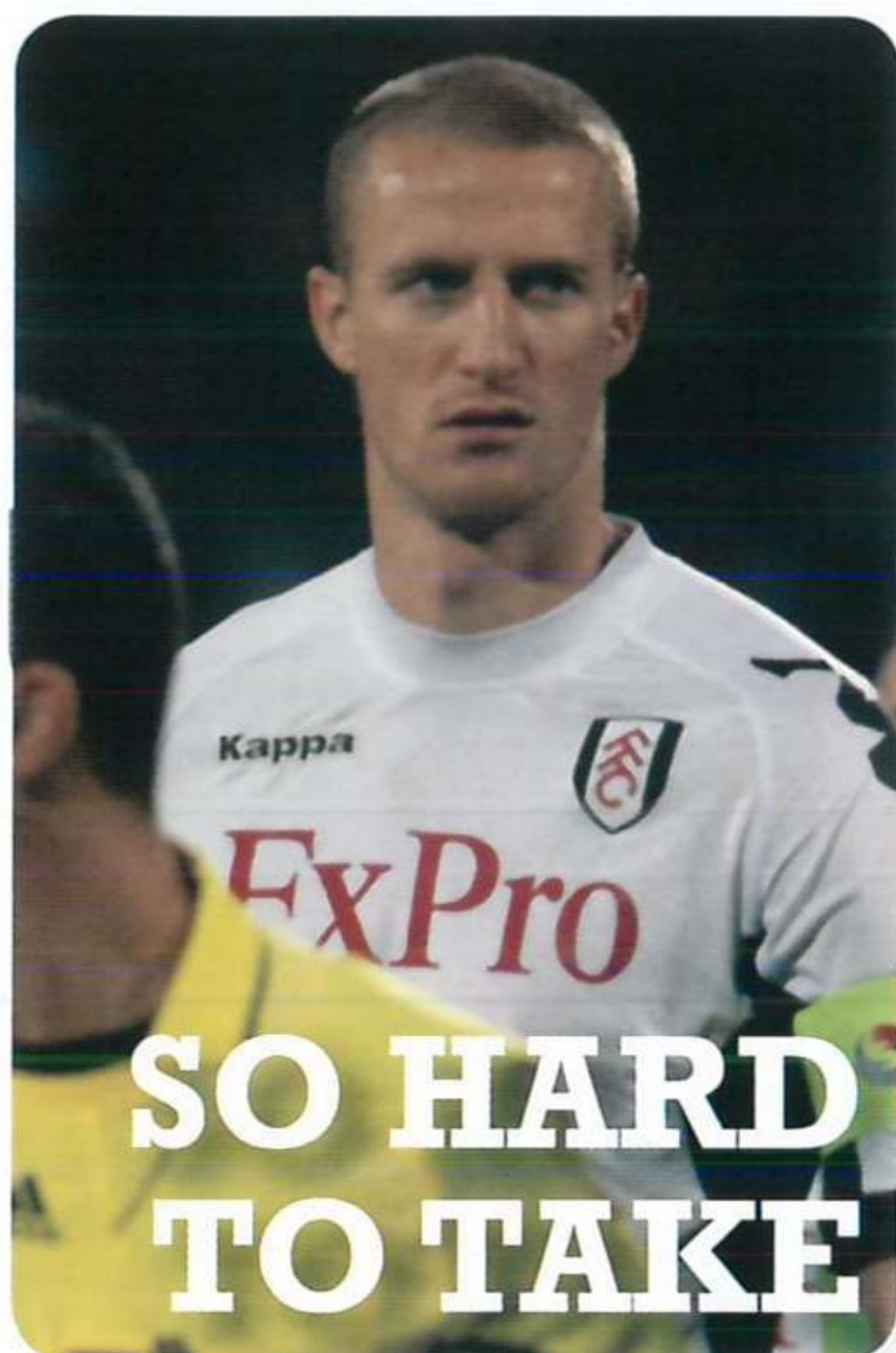
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Official fuel consumption for the SEAT Leon FR range in mpg (litres per 100km); urban 28.2 (10.0) - 46.3 (6.1); extra-urban 47.1 (6.0) - 68.9 (4.1); combined 37.7 (7.5) - 58.9 (4.8). CO₂ emissions 174 - 125 g/km.



Brede Hangeland was disconsolate as he reflected on the 2-2 draw with Odense that resulted in Fulham's exit from the UEFA Europa League on Wednesday night.

The Whites had to better Wisla Krakow's result against FC Twente to ensure progression and looked set to do so, leading comfortably for more than an hour. However, Djiby Fall's headed goal with just six seconds remaining snatched a draw for the Danes and left Craven Cottage in shock.

"It was really hard to take," admitted Brede. "We didn't play a good game, but we had by far the better chances and I can't believe we drew. To go out like that with the last kick of the ball is very, very frustrating and hard to take."

"I've been thinking about the



fact that we started on the 23rd of June and it feels like that was all for nothing at the moment, so it's very, very disappointing."

Fulham had led since the 27th minute, and doubled their advantage through young Kerim Frei four minutes later. With strong displays from the likes of Frei and fellow youngsters Matthew Briggs, Marcel Gecov and Neil Etheridge, it seemed for much of the game that we would be able to reflect on a night of many positives, but the last gasp killer blow completely changed that.

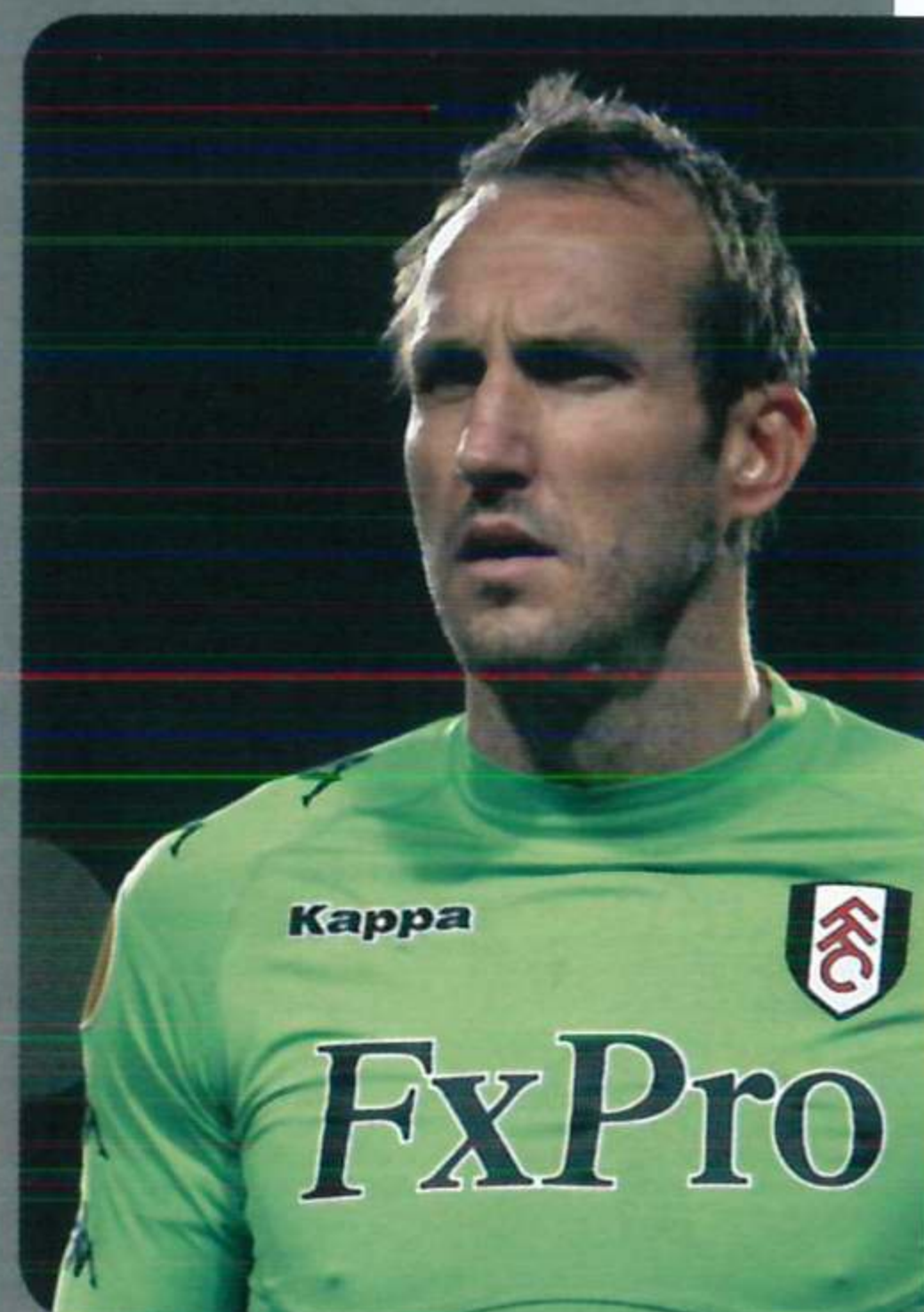
"It's not a time for anything positive," rued Hangeland. "But it's over and done with and we need to focus on the league and the FA Cup when it gets going."

Indeed, with the Whites currently residing 14th in the league table, the festive fixture schedule is extremely important as Martin Jol's side set their sights on entering the New Year in more upbeat fashion. And with Bolton Wanderers visiting the Cottage today, they have a chance to bounce back sooner rather than later.

"The games are coming thick and fast so we just need to keep going," he said. "Sometimes when you have a big disappointment it's good to have a game coming up a few days later to put things right, so we'll be up for it." England's

SCHWARZER INJURY UPDATE

The Whites will be without number one goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer for up to six weeks due to a neck injury sustained at Swansea, prompting a recall from loan for England 'keeper David Stockdale.



Academy graduate, Neil Etheridge, deputised for Schwarzer in the midweek game against Odense BK, but Stockdale is expected to step in today having impressed in goal for Fulham last term.

The 26-year-old had been enjoying a season-long loan spell at Championship club Ipswich Town, but the Club exercised a clause in his contract to bring him back. His recall was confirmed after the back page of this programme went to print, but he will wear the number 12 shirt.

Schwarzer hinted all was not right earlier in the week when he revealed his neck was still sore and he has been left 'devastated' by his enforced absence on the sidelines.

"Thanks for your well wishes, I'm devastated to be out for 4-6 weeks," he wrote on Twitter. "After speaking to the specialist, it was very clear I needed a rest." All at Fulham wish Mark a speedy recovery.

COLLINS: FULHAM WILL IMPROVE



Former Fulham favourite John Collins has predicted a stronger second half of the season for the Whites.

Collins made 79 appearances in a three-year spell at Craven Cottage and, having watched the Club progress since, the Scottish midfielder believes Martin Jol's side has a lot of quality.

"They are having a bit of a tough time at present," Collins said on Talksport. "In the league they are one of a number of clubs that are fighting for points, but I think they have enough quality to pull themselves up

the table and into a better position.

"I expect them to have a stronger second half of the season. That's something we have seen them do for the last three or four years now. Martin Jol is a top manager, he's a straight talker, he shoots from the hip and I like that."

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Fulham kicked-off the festive period with the Club's popular Christmas at the Cottage earlier this month, as hundreds of supporters came down to spread the Christmas cheer.

"Clint Dempsey, John Arne Riise, Kerim Frei, Bryan Ruiz and Orlando Sá joined fans on a night of festive fun, with Billy the Badger doing his bit too with a repertoire of songs and dancing.

Academy scholars performed some of our favourite Christmas carols, while younger fans were able to participate in art and craft stalls as well as meeting the big man himself. No, not Brede Hangeland, but Father Christmas...



TROTTA AMONGST THE GOALS



Fulham fans will be well aware of young Italian striker Marcello Trotta, a regular scorer for the Under-18s and Development Squad in recent seasons.

The 19-year-old joined League One side Wycombe Wanderers on loan last month and it looks like the talented youngster is doing what he does best with two goals in two games.

Elsewhere, fellow strikers Richard Peniket, Lauri Dalla Valle and Danny Hoesen all continue to enjoy their development with first team action at Hereford, Dundee United and Fortuna Sittard respectively. Finnish forward, Dalla Valle, has been amongst the goals too, scoring three in 12 appearances to date.

2011 FULHAM RETAIL ADVENT CALENDAR



As you may have seen, to celebrate the festive season, the Club is promoting a fantastic offer on fulhamfc.com every day in the run up to Christmas as part of the main FFC Advent Calendar.

On top of all the generous offers from some of our Club sponsors and partners, we're also offering a daily retail deal to help you find that special gift for those FFC fans in your life. Whether it's a mate or a family member, there's something for everyone.

So be sure to keep your eyes on fulhamfc.com to make sure you're in the loop!



FA YOUTH CUP PROGRESS

Fulham's Under-18s are through to the Fourth Round of the FA Youth Cup after overcoming Carlisle United Under-18s this week.

After what was an entertaining, yet hard-fought 3-1 victory, Kit Symons' side will be looking towards another successful run having reached the Quarter-Final in 2009 and the Fifth Round last season.

At the time of going to print, the Club were awaiting the Fourth Round draw on Friday 15th December. For a full report of the Carlisle game, turn to pages 62 and 63.



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On the squad lists page on the back of your programme today we have printed a unique reference number. Log on to fulhamfc.com on Monday and if your number corresponds with our Lucky Programme Number then you are the lucky winner!



Then, simply contact us on publications@fulhamfc.com or pop into Craven Cottage reception with a scan or photo of the back of your programme and we'll be in touch. If you aren't fortunate enough to win, a limited number of the sets remain in Club stores. Good luck!

Official Fulham FC Annual

Another essential for the Whites fan in your life this festive season is the official Fulham FC annual.

Packed from cover to cover with interesting facts on your favourite football club, plus puzzles, games and FFC trivia quizzes, it's available in all good book stores for £7.99.



10 YEARS AT THE TOP



Out now, in time for Christmas, is **10 Years At The Top**, a photographic celebration of our decade in amongst the football elite.

This outstanding collectors' book takes a look back at our incredible journey, in a magnificent photographic record that captures the unique spirit of Fulham Football Club, our players and loyal fans.

Starting with our 2001 arrival in the top-flight, this rare collection of high quality pictures and poignant quotes charts the most successful run in the Club's history - from near disaster, to the Europa League Final and beyond.

Read and thoroughly enjoyed by Fulham legends such as George Cohen and Gordon Davies [pictured], **10 Years at the Top** is available in both Club shops and online at shop.fulhamfc.com now.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION EXERCISE



At the conclusion of this afternoon's match, the Club will be carrying out an Emergency Evacuation Exercise.

A requirement of the issue of a safety certificate by the Local Authority is that during the course of the season evacuation exercises are carried out.

These exercises are designed to test the Club's contingency plans in its continued endeavours to ensure that Craven Cottage is a safe environment for supporters.

At the final whistle, please pay attention as you leave the ground to any announcements over the Public Address system and follow any directions given to you by the Stewards.

Your co-operation in leaving the ground by the quickest and safest directed route is essential to the success of the evacuation exercise.

Thank you,
Bob Morrison, Safety Officer



FA CUP THIRD ROUND

Fulham have been drawn to play Charlton Athletic in the Budweiser FA

Cup Third Round on Saturday 7th January 2012, kick-off 3pm.

Tickets are now on sale to FFC Season Ticket Holders on Monday 12th December with a £5 discount, making them just £15.

For more information about on sale dates and prices, turn to page 80/81 of this matchday programme.

In the event of a draw, a replay will be played on Tuesday 17th January, with a 7.45pm kick off.

TALL AMBITION

FROM NON-LEAGUE TO PREMIER LEAGUE, SUMMER ARRIVAL
DAN BURN IS DETERMINED TO MAKE IT IN THE BIG TIME

INTERVIEW TOM BROWN

Talented centre-back, Dan Burn, joined Fulham from non-League Darlington in the summer and has already turned heads while playing for the Development Squad with his coolness on the ball and mature reading of the game. Comparisons have already been made to the likes of Brede Hangeland and Chris Smalling, yet the level-headed 19-year-old is not getting carried away...

TB: Dan, you jumped four divisions when you signed for Fulham – how have you found that challenge so far?

DB: Well, it has been tough because I've gone from playing in the National Conference, to the Premier League. Okay, I haven't played for the Fulham First Team, but I'm still working with the players that do and, to be honest, I was a little star-struck when I first arrived. From almost the start I have spent a lot of time with the senior players and working with Martin Jol, so the jump has been massive. But every day I try and take in everything that I am told, so I like to think that I have improved.

TB: In what areas?

DB: I have had to become a lot more thoughtful in my play. In the Conference there is more of an emphasis on going long, but here at Fulham there is more of a need to keep possession. I do like to get on the ball and I like to think that I'm comfortable with it at my feet - I'm happy to play a pass into midfield or bring it out from the back. But even so, I've had to learn to be a lot calmer, because the players

at this level are so good, you just don't have time to think. The challenge is to try and stay one step ahead.

TB: And you've already captained the Development Squad on occasion – that must be a clear sign that you're making good progress...

DB: I like to think so, although the captaincy did come as a surprise. It was brilliant to wear the armband and I would love to do it on a more regular basis. It shows that Billy McKinlay has faith in my ability, and that's great. I'm really enjoying working for him and he's someone that I have a lot of respect for. I'm sure he will help get the best out of me, but all in all it has been a good start and I'm pleased with how I have been playing – although there is still a lot more to come.

TB: How would you describe yourself as a player to fans that haven't seen you in action yet?

DB: Well, I'm a defender first and foremost, but one that is good in the air and decent on the ball despite my height. I'm probably not the quickest around, but I get by because of my reading of the game. I like to think I know what is coming and can predict play quite easily.

TB: People have made comparisons between yourself and a certain Brede Hangeland – what do you make of that?

DB: Obviously it is a compliment, but I think it is more to do with the fact that we are a similar height, build, and play in the same position. I suppose we do share similar traits, but I have a very, very long way to go before I can

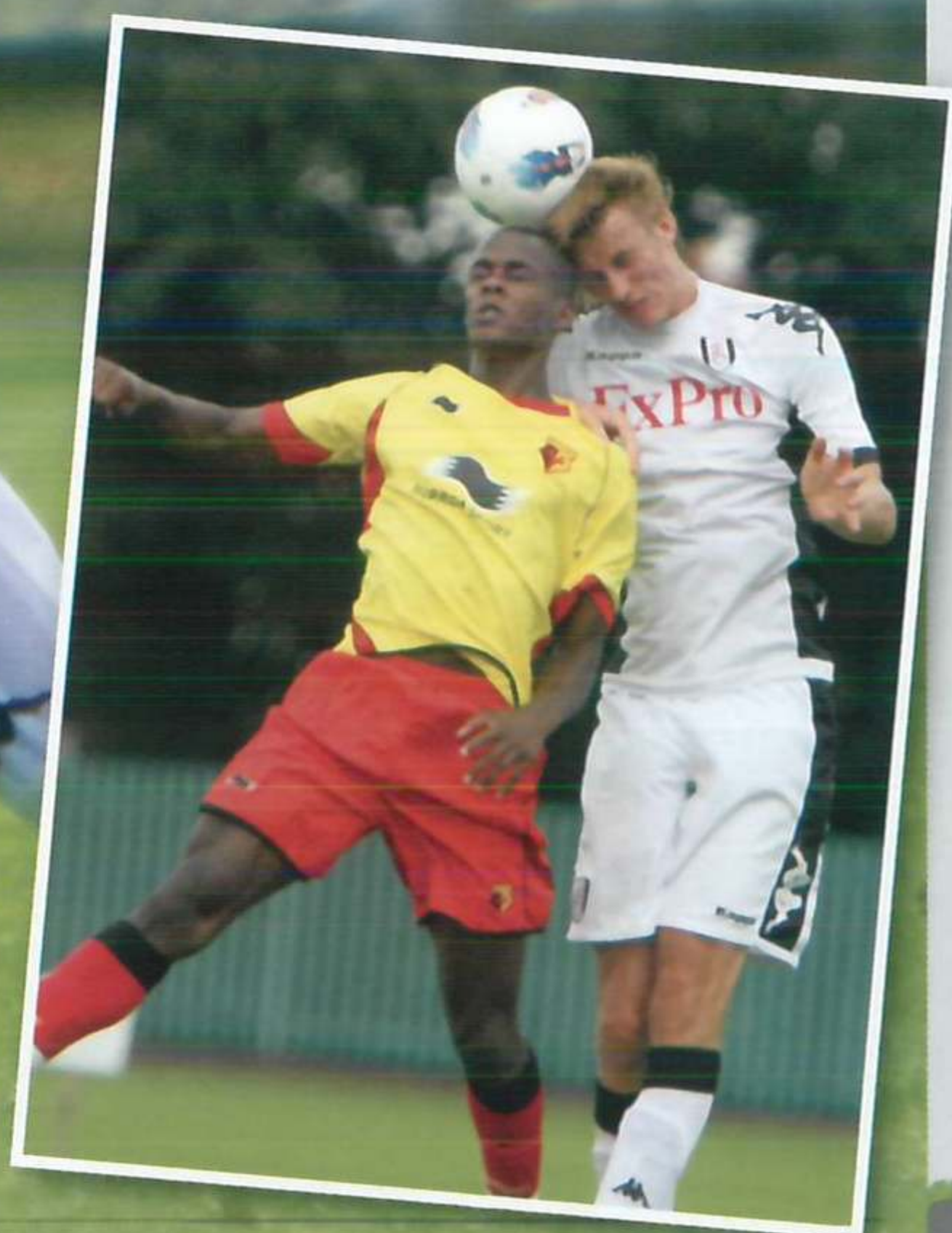
be compared to someone like Brede. He's a fantastic defender and, like all of the senior players, he has been a big help since I arrived. I can learn a lot from him.

TB: Comparisons could, however, be made between yourself and Chris Smalling though...

DB: Yeah, I can see that. Again, we both play in the same position, but also came to Fulham from non-league clubs. Chris is a great example of what can be achieved at this Club and I can definitely relate to him. We all know how well he has done, and I would love to develop as well as he did here. I share the same kind of determination that he showed, and having had the background that I have, it does push you that bit more. Chris showed that if you play your best and reach your potential then anything can happen.

TB: You played in the first team at Darlington – how much would it mean to you to go on and do the same here?

DB: There's nothing like playing first team football, no matter what level you play at. I've always loved playing in front of a crowd and to do so at Craven Cottage would be unbelievable. It is a massive step, and personally I do think I'm a long way from making that happen at the moment. I have a plan in my head as to where I want to be at the end of every season in terms of progress, development and achievement – so we will see what happens over the remainder of the season. Who knows how far I can go? But I will give it my best shot.



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PRE-MATCH PREVIEW: TODAY'S GAME



DEMBÉLÉ: WE HAVE THE QUALITY TO WIN

Mousa Dembélé insists that Fulham's quality will shine through as the Whites kick-off the first of four matches before the turn of the year.

Having beaten Liverpool at the Cottage, Fulham slipped to a disappointing defeat at Swansea last Saturday, but Dembélé believes his side can bounce back with a defeat of Bolton today.

"It wasn't the result we had hoped for last weekend that's for sure," said Dembélé. "It was a game that we should have done better in, but we have to move on now. Bolton are up next and a win against them is now the aim.

"We're determined to move up the league table and three points would be a massive boost. Bolton will be a tough team to beat, but we have enough quality to make that happen.

"In fact, we have enough quality to do well into the New Year. It's a testing time for every club, because there are a lot of matches to be played – but we're confident that we can end the year on a high and on the back of some good results."

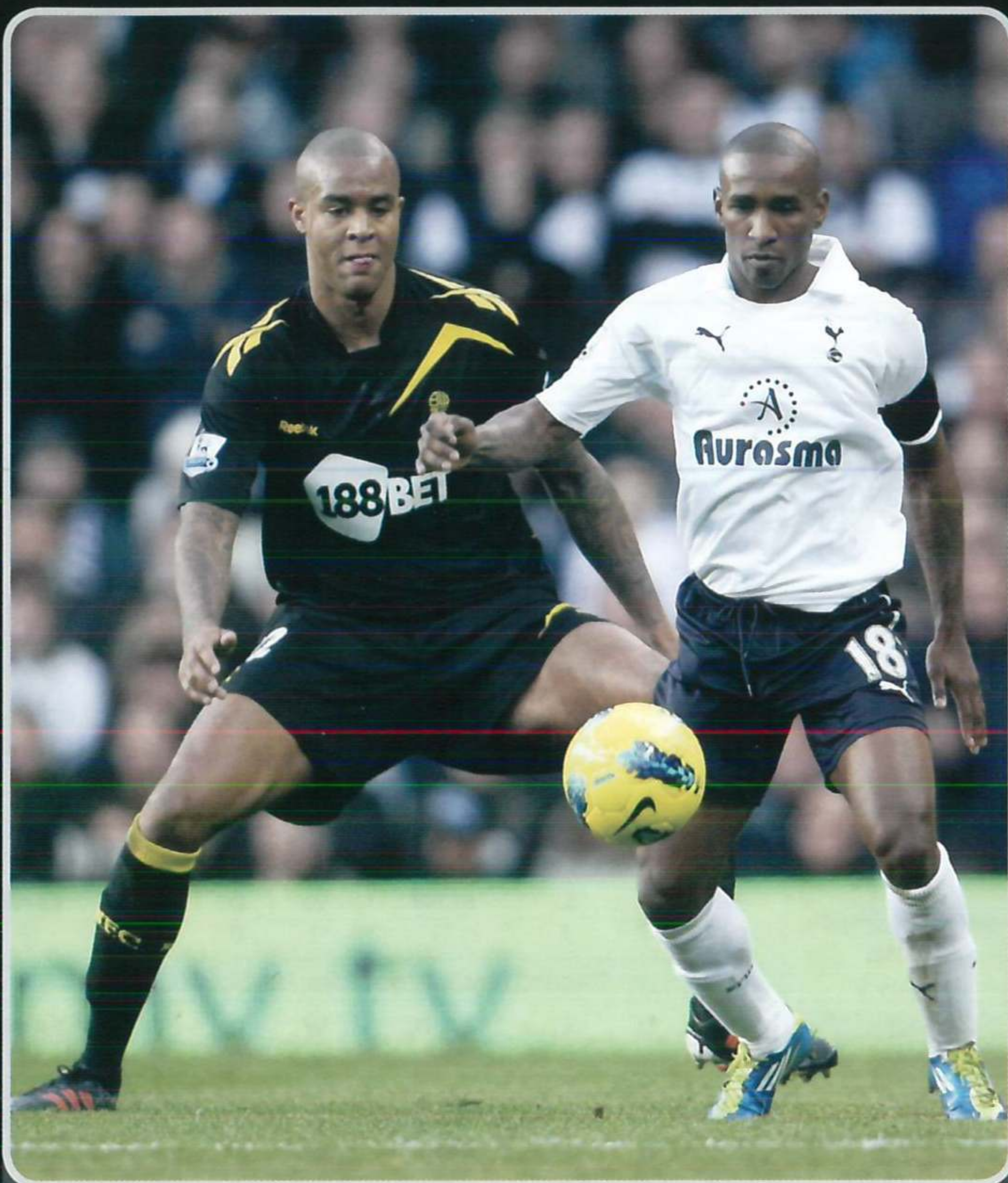


MAN OF THE MATCH

Log on to fulhamfc.com after today's game to vote for your Man of the Match!

BOLTON'S LAST FIVE VISITS TO CRAVEN COTTAGE

27.04.11	Fulham 3-0 Bolton	Premier League
20.02.11	Fulham 0-1 Bolton	FA Cup Fifth Round
28.11.09	Fulham 1-1 Bolton	Premier League
13.09.08	Fulham 2-1 Bolton	Premier League
26.09.07	Fulham 1-2 Bolton	Carling Cup Third Round



KNIGHT: WE'LL COME OUT FIGHTING

Bolton defender Zat Knight believes Bolton need to become "horrible" to play against in order to overcome their slump in form.

A 13th defeat of the season saw his side slip to the bottom of the Barclays Premier League last weekend, with nine points collected from their 15 games so far. However, the former Fulham man insists that the Trotters can turn the corner starting with his former club today.

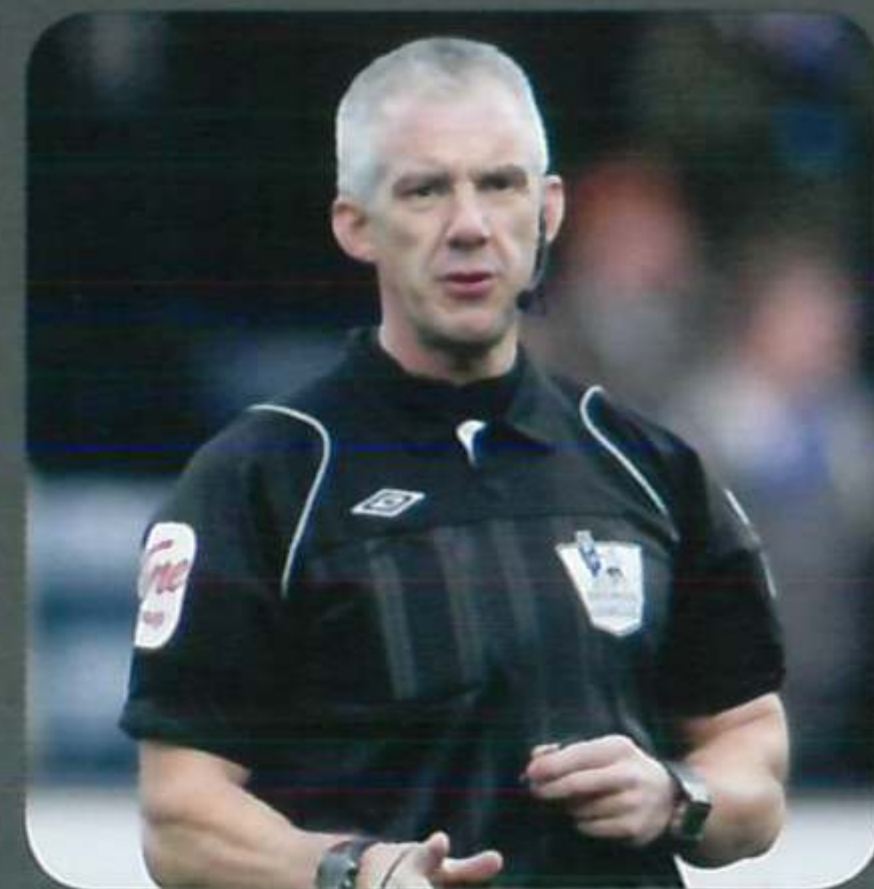
"We have to go out there and grind out the result," he told the club's official website. "That would give us something to build on and some confidence, but first of all we have to fight."

"If we are resilient and hard to beat then there is every chance that we can win games. We need to get back to the nitty-gritty and be horrible, hard-to-beat Bolton. We want to be a team that others fear and know that they will be in for a difficult game against."

DID YOU KNOW?

Bolton ended their game against Aston Villa last weekend with three former Fulham players on the pitch: Zat Knight, Darren Pratley and Gael Kakuta.

Wanderers have been shown more red cards this season (five) than any other top-flight team.



MAN IN THE MIDDLE: CHRIS FOY

It's been a while since the Lancashire-born Foy has taken charge of a game at Craven Cottage, his last dating back to the Whites' 2-0 defeat of Birmingham City in May 2008. The 49-year-old did oversee our Carling Cup defeat at Chelsea in September however. Foy joined the Football League in 1996, before being promoted to the Premier League in 2001. Last weekend he refereed Stoke's 2-1 defeat of Tottenham.

2011/12: Matches: 13 Yellow: 33 Red: 6

LAST FIVE FULHAM GAMES OFFICIATED

- 21.09.11 Chelsea 0-0 Fulham (4-3 on pens)
Carling Cup
- 04.12.10 Arsenal 2-1 Fulham
Premier League
- 27.03.10 Hull 2-0 Fulham
Premier League
- 21.11.09 Birmingham 1-0 Fulham
Premier League
- 14.03.09 Bolton 1-3 Fulham
Premier League

LAST FIVE BOLTON GAMES OFFICIATED

- 22.05.11 Bolton 0-2 Man City
Premier League
- 26.02.11 Newcastle 1-1 Bolton
Premier League
- 24.01.11 Bolton 0-4 Chelsea
Premier League
- 18.12.10 Sunderland 1-0 Bolton
Premier League
- 06.11.10 Bolton 4-2 Tottenham
Premier League

COUNTING CARDS (DOMESTIC)

- 4: Dembélé, Hangeland, Sidwell;
- 3: Baird, Etuhu, Murphy, Senderos; 2:
- Duff, Grygera, Zamora; 1: Dempsey,
- Frei, Johnson, JA Riise, Schwarzer
- 0



MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Martin Jol

Played 15 Won 3 Drawn 6 Lost 6 For 16 Against 18

Av Pts/game 1.00

Biggest Win(s) Fulham 6 QPR 0

(02/10/2011). Biggest Loss(es)

Fulham 1 Everton 3 (23/10/2011).

Owen Coyle

Played 73 Won 21 Drawn 13 Lost 39 For 88 Against 123

Av Pts/game 1.04

Biggest Win(s) Bolton 5 Stoke 0

(06/11/2011). Biggest Loss(es) Bolton

0 Man Utd 5 (10/09/2011).

MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played 0 Martin Jol 0 Owen Coyle 0
Draws 0 Goals 0 Goals 0

Player with the most...

shots

Clint

Dempsey 56

shots on target

Clint

Dempsey 37

shots off target

Clint

Dempsey 19

assists

Danny

Murphy 5

crosses

Damien

Duff 37

fouls

Danny

Murphy 19

free-kicks-won

Clint

Dempsey 31

tackles

Brede

Hangeland 37



Player with the most...

shots

Chris

Eagles 38

shots on target

Chris

Eagles 30

shots off target

Martin

Petrov 9

assists

Ivan

Klasnic 4

crosses

Martin

Petrov 25

fouls

Kevin

Davies 30

free-kicks-won

Kevin

Davies 24

tackles

Paul

Robinson 55

GAMES SINCE

1	a win	4
0	a home win	2
4	an away win	4
0	a defeat	0
1	a home defeat	0
0	an away defeat	0
3	a score draw	30
4	a no score draw	36
0	conceding a goal	0
1	scoring a goal	0
0	conceding > 1	0
6	scoring > 1	4
1	keeping a clean sheet	4
0	failing to score	1
6	back to back wins	28
8	back to back defeats	0
1	gaining a point	4
0	losing a point	0
6	win by > one	4
0	loss by > one	1

SHARP SHOOTERS

Fulham	Prem	Cup	Tot	Bolton	Prem	Cup	Tot
Andrew Johnson	3	8	11	Ivan Klasnic	7	0	7
Clint Dempsey	4	2	6	Chris Eagles	3	1	4
Bobby Zamora	3	2	5	Kevin Davies	2	0	2
Danny Murphy	1	3	4	Fabrice Muamba	1	1	2
Bryan Ruiz	1	2	3	Martin Petrov	1	1	2

TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played 74 Fulham wins 26 Bolton wins 27
Draws 21 Goals 99 (1.3 per game) Goals 91 (1.2 per game)
0-0's 10 Times failed to score 20 Times failed to score 24

Biggest League win at Fulham for each team:

11/09/1982 Fulham 4-0 Bolton

21/11/1992 Fulham 1-4 Bolton

**PRESS
ASSOCIATION
Sport**

FULHAM

Rank	Name	Score
32	D Murphy	208
81	B Hangeland	164
87	M Schwarzer	160
111	B Zamora	144
112	M Dembele	143

BOLTON

Rank	Name	Score
35	I Klasnic	204
83	C Eagles	162
122	P Robinson	138
127	G Cahill	133
147	K Davies	123

Top five ranked players for each team

LEAGUE STATS



14	Position	20
15	Played	15
3	Won	3
6	Drawn	0
6	Lost	12
16	Goals For	20
18	Goals Against	36
15	Points	9



Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
1	3	3	11	1	0	8	17

Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
2	3	3	17	2	0	4	19

Record When Scoring First

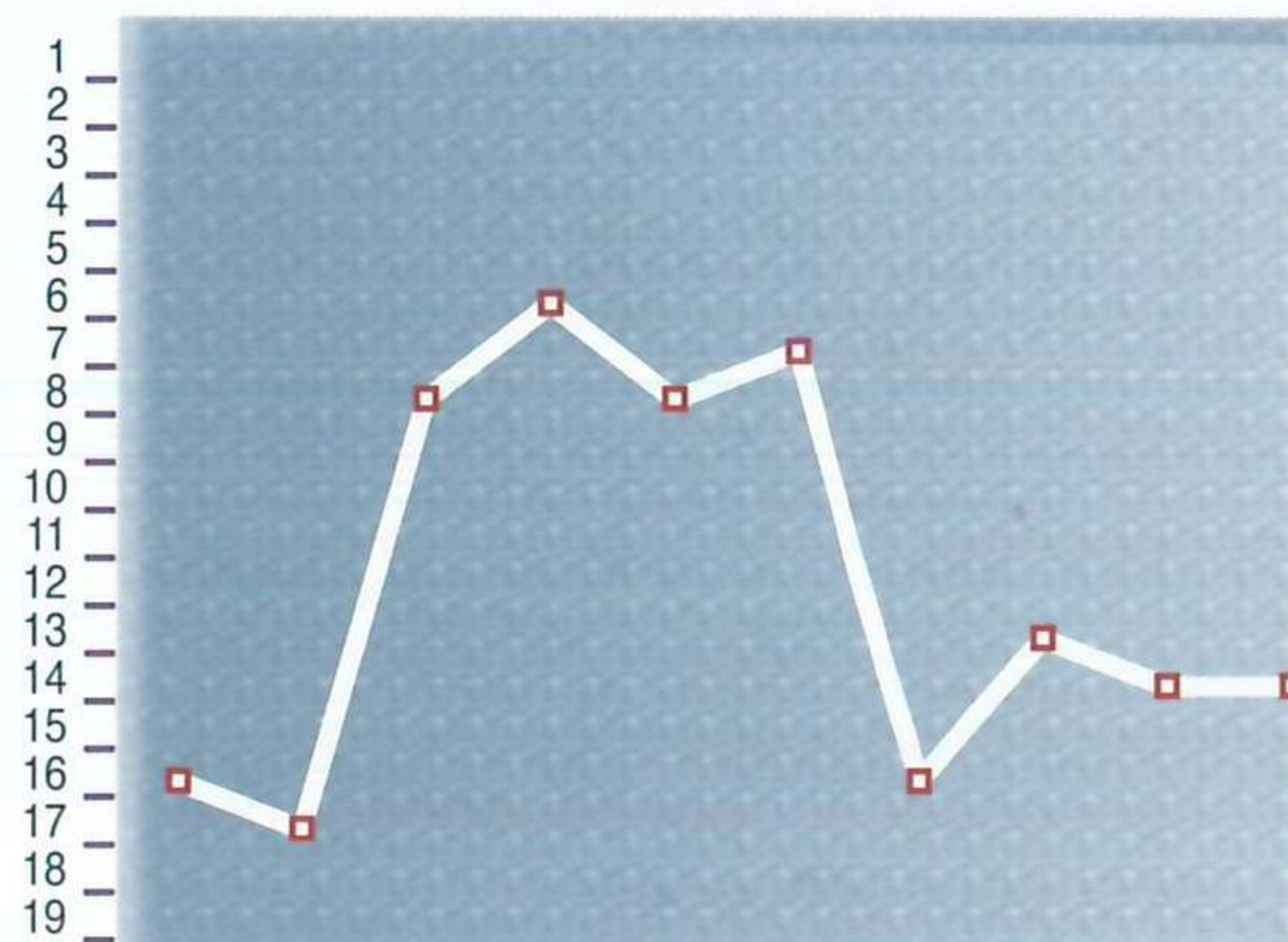
W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	1	0	13	3	0	0	16

Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
0	2	6	16	0	0	12	20

BOLTON - TEN SEASON RECORD

01/02 02/03 03/04 04/05 05/06 06/07 07/08 08/09 09/10 10/11



PREM 16 PREM 17 PREM 8 PREM 6 PREM 8 PREM 7 PREM 16 PREM 13 PREM 14 PREM 14

*up to and including 12/12/2011

HEAD TO HEAD



74
Meetings

CLUB CONNECTIONS XI

Peter Beardsley | Striker

Bolton 1997-98: 17 apps 2 goals

Fulham 1998: 21 apps 4 goals

Sean Davis | Midfielder

Fulham 1996-04: 185 apps 19 goals

Bolton 2009-present: 4 apps

John Dreyer | Defender

Fulham (loan) 1988: 12 apps 2 goals

Bolton (loan) 1995: 2 apps

Heidar Helguson | Striker

Fulham 2005-07: 63 apps 14 goals

Bolton 2007-09: 10 apps 2 goals

Jimmy Hogan | Inside forward

Fulham 1907: 4 apps

Bolton 1908-13: 54 apps 18 goals

Claus Jensen | Midfielder

Bolton 1998-00: 113 apps 10 goals

Fulham 2004-07: 40 apps 5 goals

Gaél Kakuta | Midfielder

Fulham (loan) 2011: 7 apps 1 goal

Bolton (loan) 2011-present: 5 apps

1 goal

Zat Knight | Defender

Fulham 1999-07: 179 apps 4 goals

Bolton 2009-present: 90 apps 2 goals

Steve McAnespie | Defender

Bolton 1995-97: 25 apps

Fulham 1997-2000: 7 apps

Gerry Peyton | Goalkeeper

Fulham 1977-86: 395 apps

Bolton (loan) 1991-92: 1 app

Darren Pratley | Midfielder

Fulham 2003-06: 2 apps

Bolton 2011-present: 14 apps

98 GOALS SCORED
BY THE WHITES
(AVERAGE 1.32 PER GAME)

91 GOALS SCORED
BY WANDERERS
(AVERAGE 1.22 PER GAME)



FULHAM V BOLTON IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE

9

FULHAM

4

BOLTON

7

DRAWS

BIGGEST FULHAM LEAGUE WIN V BOLTON:
4-1 at Loftus Road on 17.08.02

BIGGEST BOLTON LEAGUE WIN V FULHAM:
3-1 at the Reebok on 09.04.05

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BOLTON WANDERERS

FORMED: 1874 | NICKNAME: THE TROTTERS
CHAIRMAN: PHIL GARTSIDE

The opening months of this season have proved something of a struggle for Bolton Wanderers, despite a number of new faces at the Reebok this term.

Having secured the services of Owen Coyle as manager midway through the 2009/10 campaign, the Trotters might have expected to finish higher than 14th last season, but slipped down the table after losing their final five games of the campaign.

Exciting summer arrivals gave cause for optimism too, particularly as the club managed to hold on to the highly sought England centre-back Gary Cahill. Defensive additions included the capture of Tyrone Mears from Coyle's former club Burnley and the loan signing of Manchester City's talented youngster Dedryck Boyata.

But it was in midfield where the most strategic signings were made. Coyle again raided his

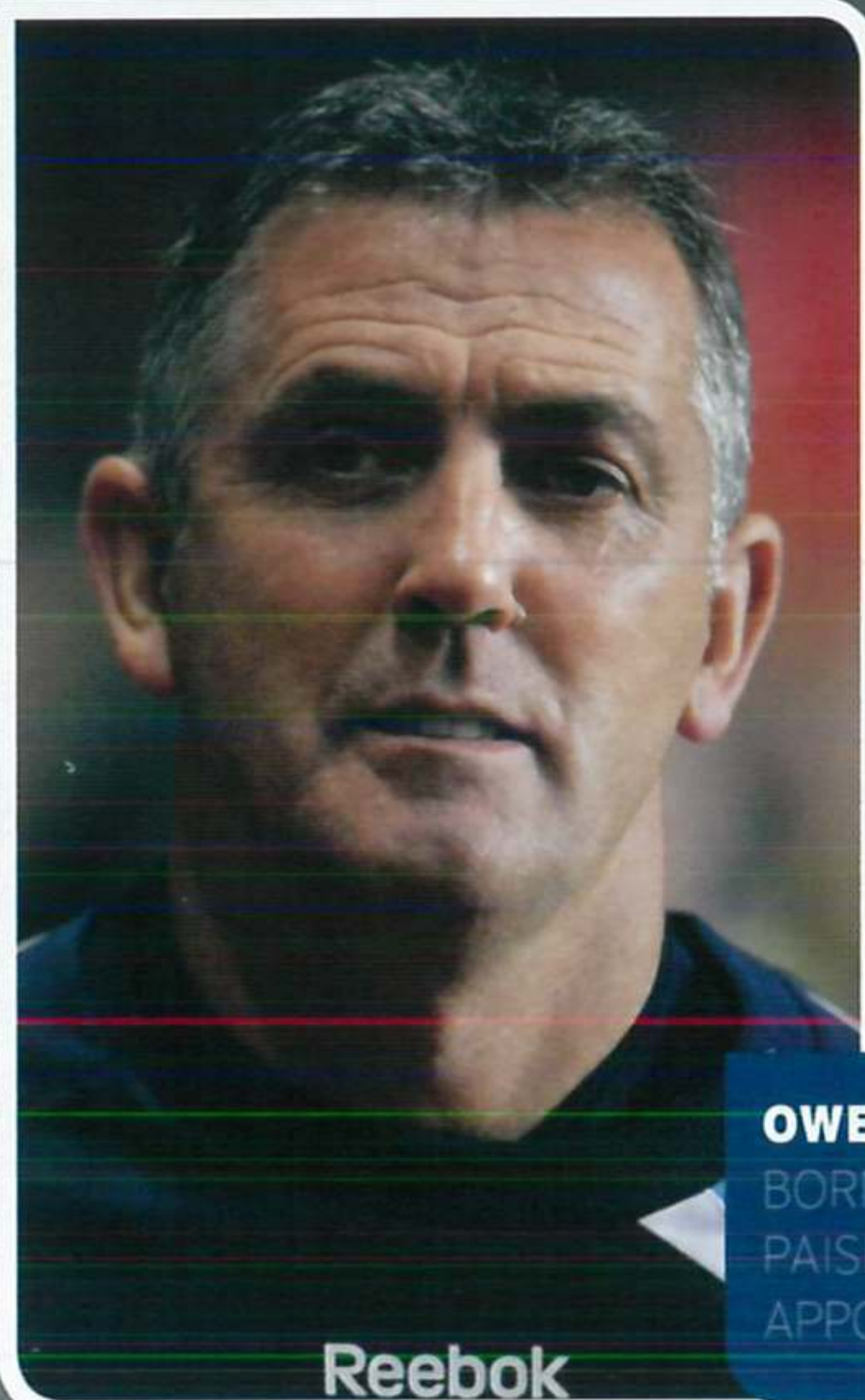
former Turf Moor home to capture ex-Manchester United trainee Chris Eagles, whilst Aston Villa's Nigel Reo-Coker was also signed - both crucial acquisitions given the loss through injury of US international Stuart Holden, who suffered a setback shortly after his comeback in a reserve match at Fulham in September.

Up front, Wanderers added the services of Stoke's experienced Turkish international Tuncay Sanli, although he has yet to feature regularly in the starting line up, but provides competition for the likes of Kevin Davies and leading scorer Ivan Klasnic, as does David N'Gog who joined from Liverpool. Chelsea's Gael Kakuta also joined on a season-long loan.

Coyle's new look side could barely have made a better start to the 2011/12 season, with a convincing 4-0 opening day win at QPR. But it was mid-October before they again

tasted victory, a 3-1 win at Wigan. In between time, six straight defeats included twice conceding five at home, to Manchester United and Chelsea. Newly promoted Norwich also won at the Reebok, as did Manchester City, and the defence leaked goals away from home with three conceded at both Liverpool and Arsenal too.

For a time it seemed Bolton's cup form would provide some relief, but following wins in the early Carling Cup rounds against Macclesfield and at Aston Villa, they were denied a place in the Quarter-Finals by a narrow defeat at the Emirates. Some smiles were at least restored in early November though, when Stoke were hammered 5-0, a sweet result as it was the Potters who prevented the Trotters from reaching their first FA Cup Final since 1958 last season, winning the Semi-Final encounter by that same decisive score line.



MEET THE GAFFER

After replacing Gary Megson midway through 2009/10, Coyle's first task was to steer Wanderers clear of relegation, and he duly engineered a 14th place finish, which was repeated last season.

A striker in his playing days, he played for Bolton between 1993 and 1995, scoring 12 goals in 54 League appearances, and helping the club to Premier League Play-Off promotion in 1995, netting in a 4-3 Wembley win over Reading.

After a playing career that took in service at no fewer than 11 different clubs, all except Bolton in Scotland, he was appointed player/manager of St. Johnstone in April 2005. In 2007 the Perth-based club reached the final of the Scottish Challenge Cup but, before the game was played, Coyle accepted an offer to take over as manager of Burnley.

OWEN COYLE

BORN 14.07.66

PAISLEY, SCOTLAND

APPOINTED: JANUARY 2010

Reebok

In his only full season in charge at Turf Moor, Coyle guided the Clarets back to the top-flight for the first time in 33 years. The attractive playing style and success on a limited budget were amongst the factors which persuaded Bolton to seek out his services at the start of 2010.

THE CLUB CAPTAIN

An experienced striker with more than 650 career games to his credit, more than two thirds of which have been in the Premier League, he took over the captaincy at Bolton in January 2009 following the departure of Kevin Nolan to Newcastle.

Davies' main playing strength is

his ability to lead the line, holding and shielding the ball to bring others into play. He is particularly effective in the air and, although not a prolific scorer, he can usually be relied upon to chip in with his fair share, netting double figures in three campaigns since joining the Trotters from Southampton in 2003.

The forward began his career at Chesterfield and starred in the 1997 FA Cup run which saw the Spireites reach the Semi-Finals. A move to Southampton followed before Blackburn paid £7.5million to take him to Ewood Park in 1998. A year later he returned to the South Coast and also had a loan spell at Millwall prior to his arrival at the Reebok.

Last season Davies won a first full England cap, appearing as a substitute in a Euro 2012 qualifier against Montenegro having previously appeared for his country at U18 and U21 levels. Age 34.



14 KEVIN DAVIES

STRIKER

BORN: 26.03.77 SHEFFIELD

DEBUT: AUGUST 2003

IN THE HEADLINES

Manager Owen Coyle has challenged his side to play without fear after watching Wanderers slip to the foot of the table.

Nigel Reo-Coker added that there is not a sense of doom and gloom at Bolton despite their current position.

Chelsea claim to hold no interest in the signing of Bolton defender Gary Cahill, although the England international is also linked with a move to Italy.

Bolton are one of a number of clubs looking at bringing in Bristol City winger Albert Adomah in the January transfer window.

The club have also been tipped to make a January loan move for Chelsea's exciting young midfielder Josh McEachran.

Former Bolton favourite Jason McAteer believes Owen Coyle is still the man to turn Bolton's season around.

THREE TO WATCH

**DEF GARY CAHILL**

An England international centre-half who began his career with Aston Villa, Cahill was the subject of much transfer speculation over the summer, but for now remains at the Reebok where he has played since moving from the Midlands in 2008. Scored in the 4-0 opening day win against QPR. Age 25.

**MID CHRIS EAGLES**

Former Manchester United trainee who joined last summer after three years at Burnley where he was part of the side which gained promotion to the Premier League under Owen Coyle. A speedy winger whose tricky skills create chances for others, he has also featured amongst the goals himself this season. Age 26.

**MID MARTIN PETROV**

Highly competitive but skilful wide man who joined in 2010 from Manchester City. The experienced Bulgarian international counts CSKA Sofia and Atlético Madrid amongst his former clubs, joining City from the Spanish side in 2007, before scoring an impressive double here at the Cottage that year. Age 32.

**GK ADAM BOGDAN**

Hungarian international first capped in June 2011 against Luxembourg. Now in his fourth season with Bolton, he is challenging Jussi Jääskeläinen for the first choice spot having already made a number of appearances this season. Previously with Vaasa FC, he also spent time on loan at Crewe. Age 27.

**GK JUSSI JÄÄSKELÄINEN**

Experienced goalkeeper who has been the Trotters' first choice since 1998. Missing games only through injury and suspension, he now has more than 500 senior appearances to his name. An excellent shot stopper who commands his area well, he won 56 caps for Finland between 1998 and 2010. Age 36.

**DEF GRETAR STEINSSON**

An attacking right-back with an explosive shot, Steinsson is an effective ball winner who likes to get forward. Joined in 2008 from Dutch side AZ Alkmaar having previously played in Iceland and Switzerland where he represented Young Boys. An Icelandic international first capped in 2002. Age 29.



4

DEF PAUL ROBINSON

A highly competitive left-back, Robinson started his career with Watford for whom he scored against the Whites in 1997. The ex-England U21 defender can also cover in central defence when required. Signed from West Bromwich Albion in January 2010 following a six-month loan. Age 33.



31

DEF DAVID WHEATER

Rugged centre-back who imposes his presence and is dominant in the air. Came through the successful Middlesbrough youth academy where he was part of the team that reached the 2004 FA Youth Cup Final. The former England U21 international joined Bolton in January 2011. Age 24.



12

DEF ZAT KNIGHT

Big centre-back who began his professional career with Fulham who signed him from non-League Rushall Olympic in 1999. Zat spent eight years at Craven Cottage, gaining senior England recognition in 2005. Two years later he joined boyhood idols Aston Villa, before moving to Bolton in 2009. Age 31.



18

DEF SAM RICKETTS

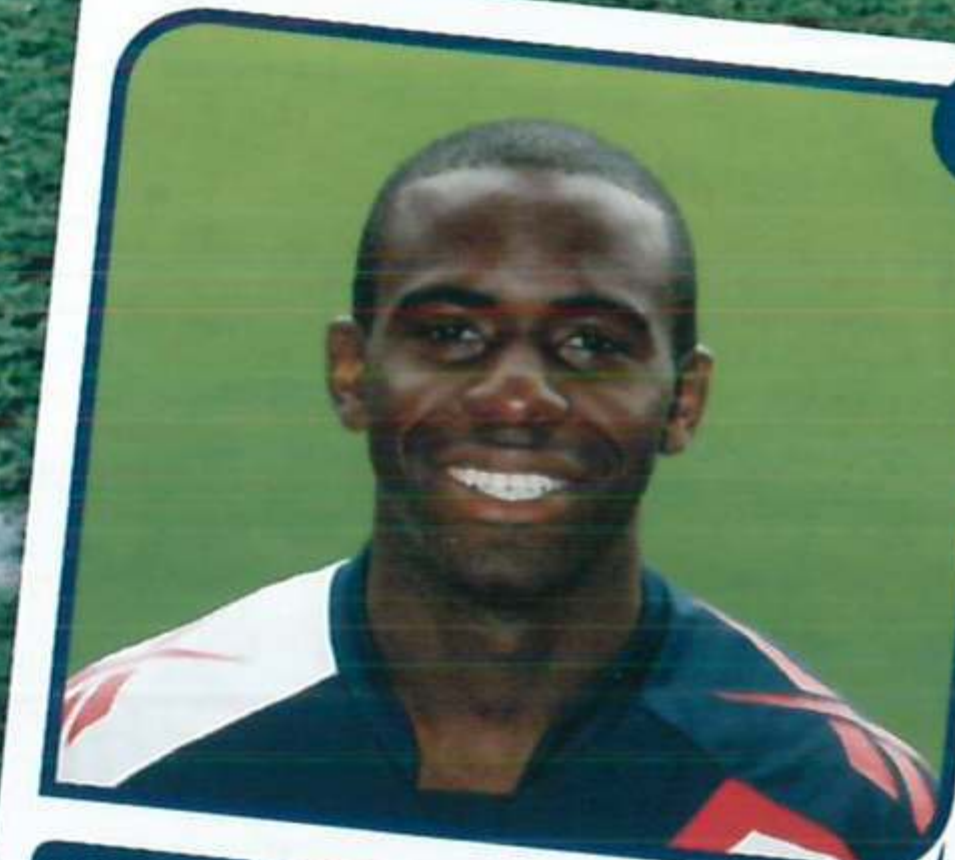
Versatile defender who has played in every position across the back four since joining in 2009 from Hull City whom he helped gain Premier League status for the first time in 2008. Started out with Oxford United and played non-League before moving to Swansea in 2004. A Welsh international. Age 30.



25

DEF DEDRYCK BOYATA

On a season-long loan from Manchester City for whom he made a number of impressive performances last season. Capable of operating as a right-back or in central defence, he gained full international recognition with his native Belgium late last year in two Euro 2012 qualifiers. Age 21.



6

MID FABRICE MUAMBA

Former Arsenal trainee who made his name at Birmingham City, joining the Blues on loan before making the move permanent in 2007. A year later the tough-tackling midfielder moved north to Bolton for a reported £5m. A former England youth and U21 international. Age 23.



11

MID RICARDO GARDNER

A left-sided midfielder or wing-back, the former Jamaican international was one of the stars of the 1998 World Cup, attracting the attention of Bolton who signed him from Harbour View. Spent a loan spell at Preston last season. Only Jussi Jääskeläinen has served the club longer. Age 33.

CLUB LEGEND

DAVID JACK

The 1923 FA Cup Final is remembered more for the White Horse ridden by PC Scorey than the men who won the first ever Wembley Final for Bolton Wanderers.

However, David Jack was the first ever scorer in such a game, as West Ham were beaten 2-0. Three years later he returned, and was the only scorer as Wanderers saw off the challenge of Manchester City.

Although born in Bolton, Jack's first professional experience came with Plymouth Argyle which had been his father's club. He joined his home town team in 1920, for a fee of £3,500, and spent eight seasons with the Trotters netting 144 goals in 295 appearances, before joining Arsenal in 1928 where his scoring rate became even more prolific.

Jack won the first of his nine England caps whilst at Burnden Park and netted three times on international duty.

After hanging up his boots, he managed Southend, Middlesbrough and Dublin side Shelbourne, whom he left in 1955. He died in 1958 at the age of just 59.



21

MID DARREN PRATLEY

A summer signing from Swansea having played a significant part in the Swans' elevation to the Premier League. A former Fulham trainee who made his senior debut in a Carling Cup tie at Wigan in 2003, after two loan spells at Brentford the competitive midfielder joined Swansea in 2006. Age 26.

BOLTON HOT PROSPECT



16

MID MARK DAVIES

Began his career with his home town club Wolves, signing pro in 2005. A midfield playmaker who is confident in possession, he joined Bolton in January 2009, signing a four-year contract. His strike against Blackpool last season, his first for Wanderers, was voted the club's Goal of the Season. Age 23.



19

MID NIGEL REO-COKER

A combative midfielder who leads by example, Reo-Coker joined Bolton on a free transfer this summer after being released by Aston Villa. The former England U21 star started his career at Wimbledon before joining West Ham in 2004 and was Hammers club captain before moving to Villa in 2007. Age 27.



39

DEF JOE RILEY

Right-back who came through the Trotters' youth system, moving up to reserve level where he featured as a wide midfielder against Fulham at Motspur Park in September. Made his debut in the 5-0 thrashing of Stoke City last month, receiving a standing ovation when substituted late in the game. Age 20.



5

THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT BOLTON WANDERERS

1. They have spent more seasons in the top Division without winning the title than any other club. This season is their 73rd non-consecutive year in the highest tier of English football, and the best position they have achieved is third.
2. They're nicknamed the Trotters because they used to play near a pig farm. Alternatively, Trotters is a local term for practical jokers. Or, it's a variation on the name Wanderers. Take your pick.
3. Bolton's Burnden Park staged the lowest ever attended FA Cup Final. In 1901, Tottenham Hotspur's 3-1 victory over Sheffield United in a replay attracted only 20,470 spectators, despite more than 110,000 turning up at Crystal Palace for the first match. The story goes that the day became known as 'Pie Saturday' because the caterers hugely over-estimated the number of meat pies required and had to give the surplus away after the game.
4. When dense smog threatened their match against Arsenal at Highbury in November 1951, the Gunners erected fluorescent green sightscreens at both ends of the pitch to make the goals more visible.
5. They appeared in the first Football League match televised live in England. In September 1960 at Bloomfield Road when they beat Blackpool 1-0.



FOR TUNCAY SANLI

A versatile forward who can play in a support role or in midfield, he is on loan from Wolfsburg whom he joined earlier this year from Stoke. Captain of Turkey, whom he led at Euro 2008, he began his career at Sakaryaspor and also spent time with Fenerbahce and Middlesbrough. Age 29.



FOR IVAN KLASNIC

An opportunist striker who has twice netted at Craven Cottage, Klasnic is a Croatian international who initially arrived at the Reebok on loan from Nantes, prior to signing permanently last season. Top scorer last term, he remains in good form this season with five from his first 10 appearances. Age 31.



FOR GAEL KAKUTA

Currently on loan from Chelsea having spent a similar spell at Fulham last season, making seven appearances and scoring in the 3-0 win at Sunderland. A fast and direct winger with quick feet, he already has Champions League experience with the Blues but hopes for more regular action at the Reebok. Age 20.



FOR DAVID N'GOG

Signed during the summer, N'Gog is a quick-thinking, opportunist forward who started his career at Paris St. Germain before joining Liverpool in 2008, making 94 senior appearances and scoring 19 goals. Capped at all levels for France up to and including U21 level. Age 22.

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INSIDE THE CAMP WITH KEVIN DAVIES

THE BOLTON SKIPPER SAYS THAT HE AND HIS TEAM-MATES ARE ALL PULLING IN THE SAME DIRECTION TO TURN AROUND THEIR FORM AND ESCAPE THE BOTTOM THREE



After a difficult couple of months, your aim must obviously be to move

out of the bottom three and that challenge brings you to Craven Cottage today – what are your thoughts on the match?

Craven Cottage is a ground I always enjoy playing at. I remember coming here in my first season with Bolton and scoring. I seem to remember we went a goal up just after half-time, but Fulham turned it around with two quick-fire goals, one of which was from Sean Davis. But that's in the past now and we know we're going to be in for a tough game this time round. The crowd really gee their side on and are close to the pitch which always makes for a good atmosphere.

Fulham have a decent record at home, but you must be able to take a lot from the fact that you guys won here in the FA Cup last season...

That's right. Klas [Ivan Klasnic] gave us the lead early on with one of his typical goals, reacting quickest to fire in from close range. We played well that afternoon and really had to dig in at times to keep a clean sheet, which is never easy to do when you're coming up against players of the calibre of Clint Dempsey and Bobby Zamora. Hopefully we can repeat that feat this afternoon.

Defeat at home to Aston Villa last weekend saw Bolton slip to the foot of the Premier League table – how difficult was that?

There's no getting away from the fact that our season hasn't gone as planned, but we're all pulling in the same direction to get ourselves out of where we are. It's never nice losing games and I think I speak for all the players and staff when I say we are all working hard to get ourselves out of this mess. We can't keep looking for excuses. The fixtures, the injuries – they have been tough for us, but that's what the squad is there for.

Your manager has been very positive in his reaction to that defeat, calling for passion, energy and desire – one imagines they're characteristics that you hope to see too?

Of course. Those are elements you look for in your play regardless of your recent results, and the manager doesn't let any negativity creep in. We feel the next four games are massive for us. I've been in this kind of situation before. It's not nice being where we are, but we know the feeling would be a lot worse if we are still here in a few months' time.

Reading some of the post-match comments from the weekend, your team-mates have been honest when assessing the season so far, but the key factor seems to be that you all believe that you can move forwards?

We know we're a better group of players than what our form is suggesting. We've shown that a couple of times this season with our performances away at QPR and at home against Stoke. But that's not acceptable, we need to do it on a regular basis. We've got a good mix of players at this club who have shown what they are capable of.

Quotes courtesy of Bolton Wanderers FC



Record signing:
Johan Elmander



CLUB RECORDS

Premier League highest: 6th in 2004/05

FA Cup Winners: 4 (Last in 1958)

League Cup Finalists: 2 (1995 & 2004)

UEFA Cup: Last 16 2007/08

Most League apps:

Eddie Hopkinson, 519, 1956-70

Most League goals:

Nat Lofthouse, 255, 1946-61

Record Transfer Paid: £10m to Toulouse for Johan Elmander in July 2008

Record Transfer Received: £15m from Chelsea for Nicolas Anelka in January 2008

LAST SEASON

Barclays Premier League: 14th

FA Cup: Semi-Finals

Carling Cup: Third Round

Top Scorer: Johan Elmander 12 (10PL, 2FAC)

LAST TIME AT THE COTTAGE

Barclays Premier League 27.04.11

Fulham 3

(Dempsey 15,48, Hangeland 65)

Bolton Wanderers 0

Attendance: 23,222

LAST FIVE

Aston Villa	H	PL	L	1-2
Tottenham	A	PL	L	3-0
Everton	H	PL	L	0-2
West Brom	A	PL	L	2-1
Stoke	H	PL	W	5-0

THE KNOW

APPEARANCES & GOALS 2011/12

Up to and including
10th December 2011

	11/12 Apps	11/12 Goals	BWFC Apps	BWFC Goals
Ádám Bogdán , Born 27.09.87 Budapest, Hungary Previous Clubs: Vasas SC, Vecrses SC (loan), Crewe (loan)*	4	0	12+1	0
Robbie Blake , Born 04.03.76 Middlesbrough, England Previous Clubs: Darlington, Waterford Utd (loan), Bradford, N. Forest (loan), Burnley, Birmingham, Leeds, Burnley	1+2	0	4+11	1
Dedryck Boyata , Born 28.11.90 Brussels, Belgium Previous Club: Manchester City	7+1	1	7+1	1
Gary Cahill , Born 19.12.85 Sheffield, England Previous Clubs: Aston Villa, Burnley (loan), Sheffield United (loan)	16	1	130	14
Kevin Davies , Born 26.03.77 Sheffield, England Previous Clubs: Chesterfield, Southampton, Blackburn, Southampton, Millwall (loan)	13+3	2	329+13	72
Mark Davies , Born 18.02.88 Wolverhampton, England Previous Clubs: Wolves, Leicester (loan)	9+7	0	38+40	3
Sean Davis , Born 20.09.79 London, England Previous Clubs: Fulham, Tottenham, Portsmouth	0	0	4	0
Chris Eagles , Born 19.11.85 Hemel Hempstead, England Previous Clubs: Manchester United, Watford (loan), Sheffield Wednesday (loan), NEC Nijmegen, Burnley	15+3	4	15+3	4
Ricardo Gardner , Born 25.09.78 Saint Andrew, Jamaica Previous Club: Harbour View	4+2	0	341+69	25
Stuart Holden , Born 01.08.85 Aberdeen, Scotland Previous Clubs: Sunderland, Houston Dynamo	1	0	31+3	2
Jussi Jääskeläinen , Born 19.04.75 Mikkeli, Finland Previous Clubs: Mikkeliin Palloilijat, VPS Vaasa	14	0	522+1	0
Gaël Kakuta , Born 21.06.91 Lille, France Previous Clubs: Lens, Chelsea, Fulham (loan)	2+4	1	2+4	1
Ivan Klasnic , Born 29.01.80 Hamburg, Germany Previous Clubs: FC St Pauli, Werder Bremen, Nantes	11+3	7	35+40	22
Zat Knight , Born 02.05.80 Solihull, England Previous Clubs: Rushall Olympic, Fulham, Peterborough (loan), Aston Villa	10+2	0	90+2	2
Tyrone Mears , Born 18.02.83 Chadderton, England Previous Clubs: Manchester City, Preston, West Ham, Derby, Marseille (loan), Burnley	0	0	0	0
Fabrice Muamba , Born 06.04.88 Kinshasa, DR Congo Previous Clubs: Arsenal, Birmingham	10	2	124+10	3
David N'Gog , Born 01.04.89 Paris, France Previous Clubs: Paris St Germain, Liverpool	6+6	1	6+6	1
Martin Petrov , Born 15.01.79 Vratsa, Bulgaria Previous Clubs: Botev Vratsa, CSKA Sofia, Servette, Wolfsburg, Atletico Madrid, Manchester City	11+1	2	35+11	5
Darren Pratley , Born 22.04.85 London, England Previous Clubs: Fulham, Brentford (loan), Swansea	10+7	0	10+7	0
Nigel Reo-Coker , Born 14.05.84 Croydon, England Previous Clubs: Wimbledon, West Ham, Aston Villa	14	1	14	1
Sam Ricketts , Born 11.10.81 Aylesbury, England Previous Clubs: Oxford, Nuneaton (loan), Telford, Swansea, Hull	0	0	50+5	0
Joe Riley , Born 13.10.91 Salford, England Previous Clubs: None	3	0	3	0
Paul Robinson , Born 14.12.78 Watford, England Previous Clubs: Watford, WBA.	14+2	0	80+3	0
Gréтар Steinsson , Born 09.01.82 Siglufjörður, Iceland Previous Clubs: Akranes, Young Boys, AZ Alkmaar	9+1	0	119+3	5
Tuncay Sanli , Born 16.01.82 Sakarya, Turkey Previous Clubs: Sakaryaspor, Fenerbahçe, Middlesbrough, Stoke, Wolfsburg	4+5	1	4+5	1
David Wheater , Born 14.02.87 Redcar, England Previous Clubs: Middlesbrough, Doncaster (loan), Wolves (loan), Darlington (loan)	9	0	18+2	0
Lee Chung-Yong , Born 02.07.88 Seoul, South Korea Previous Club: FC Seoul	0	0	31+11	5

* = loan during current spell at Bolton Wanderers
Also Played 11/12: Michael O'Halloran 0+1/0.

LEDGE

28,101

THE CAPACITY OF THE REEBOK STADIUM - BOLTON'S HOME

Bolton have been crowned Second Division/First Division (now Championship) winners on three occasions

1874:

THE YEAR THE CLUB WAS FOUNDED

100

THE MOST LEAGUE GOALS WANDERERS HAVE SCORED IN ONE SEASON (1996/97)

14TH THE POSITION THE CLUB FINISHED IN LAST SEASON'S PREMIER LEAGUE

Bolton are also known as the Trotters

72 THE CLUB HAVE SPENT THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF SEASONS IN THE ENGLISH TOP-FLIGHT WITHOUT WINNING THE TITLE - 2010/11 WAS THEIR 72ND (NON-CONSECUTIVE) YEAR

3 THE AMOUNT OF TIMES WANDERERS LIFTED THE FA CUP DURING THE 1920S. THEY ALSO WON THE CUP IN 1958

THEY HAVE FINISHED FA CUP RUNNERS-UP ON THREE OCCASIONS TOO, AND LOSING LEAGUE CUP FINALISTS TWICE - THE LAST OF WHICH WAS IN 2004

8-0 BOLTON'S RECORD LEAGUE WIN CAME AGAINST BARNSELY DURING THE 1934/35 CAMPAIGN



285 The number of goals the club's all-time top goalscorer, **Nat Lofthouse**, scored between 1946 and 1960

525 The amount of games Jussi Jääskeläinen has played for the club. The 'keeper is 53 appearances away from equalling Eddie Hopkinson's record appearance total

£8.2m Johan Elmander became Bolton's record signing when he joined from Toulouse in June 2008 - the Swedish striker left for Galatasaray last summer

15 Ray Parry became the club's youngest ever player when he made his debut aged 15 years and 267 days against Wolves in October 1951

45 Peter Shilton became Bolton's oldest ever player when he faced Wolves in October 1995 aged 45 years and 239 days



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DAVID LEE

EXPERT ANALYSIS

FORMER BOLTON MIDFIELDER AND NOW ASSISTANT ACADEMY DIRECTOR, DAVID LEE OFFERS HIS INSIGHT ON TODAY'S GAME...

Consistency the key

Today's game is an interesting one because only six points separate the two teams going into the match. Bolton really have had a difficult season so far. I thought they might kick-start following the defeat of Wigan in mid-October, but unfortunately that didn't happen. It was the same when we beat Stoke 5-0 last month, so I suppose consistency has been the key. It has been the same in many ways for Fulham, because they too have been a little up and down. Following the draw at Arsenal and the defeat of Liverpool, it looked like Martin Jol's side had found a bit of momentum, which is so important, but the result at Swansea last weekend will have set them back.

Out of luck

Neither team will be quick to make excuses, but they have been very unlucky at times. Fulham have dominated games, yet still come away empty handed – the defeats against Everton and Tottenham are two that immediately spring to mind. Meanwhile, Bolton have certainly had their share of injuries so far, with Chung-Yong Lee, Stuart Holden and Tyrone Mears all ruled out early on, which has meant Owen Coyle hasn't had the chance to use his strongest XI. Both teams have a lot of ability, but sometimes you just need that little bit of luck to kick-start things. I thought Clint Dempsey's winner against Liverpool could well have been the goal that turned Fulham's season around.

Goals win matches

It's an obvious statement to make, but goals do win matches.

Last season Bolton had Daniel Sturridge and Johan Elmander leading the line, but one returned to Chelsea following his successful loan, while the other joined Galatasaray this summer. It's difficult losing one, never mind two. David Ngog did come in from Liverpool, and while he is a worthy replacement, he too has spent time on the sidelines through injury, again underlining the sore luck they have had so far. Fortunately he is back, and could well face Fulham today, determined to make up for lost time. Fulham have a lot of options in attack, and Andrew Johnson has been in impressive form. And while Bobby Zamora probably hasn't scored as many as he would have hoped, he's always capable of making a difference. Clint Dempsey scored twice at Craven Cottage against Bolton in the league last year, so they will need to be aware of him too.

Previous experience

Bolton were comprehensively beaten here in the league last season, but saying that, there aren't many teams that get the better of Fulham at the Cottage. Although we haven't enjoyed the best of runs on this ground recent years, the players have to take confidence from their performance in the FA Cup last season – beating Fulham 1-0 here. They need to draw on that and contain them again.

Zamora v Cahill

If they are to do that today, then Gary Cahill could be vital. The England defender is a leading figure for this team, and his contribution at the back is so important. Fulham will get players forward, so it could be a busy afternoon for him. But

if Coyle can get Cahill dominating from the back, especially with Jussi Jaaskelainen behind him, then they have a very strong backbone. Cahill is a top player, and one that I rate very highly. I know that Mousa Dembélé has been playing well and earning a lot of plaudits, but for me, Zamora is still Fulham's main threat because he just offers so much. His hold up play is as good as any other in the top-flight, and while he may not be the most prolific of strikers, over the course of the season he will score goals of real importance. The head-to-head between Zamora and Cahill could well determine the outcome.

The game

While Fulham will no doubt believe that they can get a positive result this afternoon, Bolton too will feel that this match is a winnable one. That said, they need the points, so they would probably be more than happy with a point. Both will be aware of each others' place in the table, so three points for either will be very important. The home side will have the majority of possession, so it will be interesting to see how Bolton use the ball.

Score prediction

I can't see too many chances falling for either team, so I'll go for a 1-1 draw.

1 HEAD-TO-HEAD 1



CHRISTMAS IS CRUCIAL

CHRIS BAIRD IS PINPOINTING THE FESTIVE FIXTURE SCHEDULE AS A CHANCE TO TURN FULHAM'S SEASON AROUND

INTERVIEW TOM BROWN



Now in his fifth season at Craven Cottage, Chris Baird has seen and experienced it all.

In that time the Northern Ireland international has become an integral part of the Whites' squad - with few matching his desire and determination to succeed. At times it might not have been easy, but the 29-year-old has impressed and progressed significantly to the point where he stands as one of our most consistent and resilient performers.

A popular player in the stands, Baird has been in impressive form this term, covering with customary assurance and pushing forward with effortless conviction.

With the Christmas period a testing time for any club, Fulham may enter today's game in the wrong half of the Barclays Premier League table, but Baird insists that the team's undoubted quality will shine through... ►

This afternoon's game will be the team's 31st of the campaign so far – that's an incredible amount for this stage of the season isn't it?

It is, and in many ways it has already been a long season. That is a massive amount of games to have played, but we have been there before during our first season in Europe, so we know what is expected. When you take into account too, that December is already a busy fixture period, it is a testing time for us. To have already played 30 matches is hard to comprehend, but it has been something that we have enjoyed. We're footballers and that's what we get paid to do – it's something we love. It can be tough, but we have a big enough squad to cope with the demands. Make no mistake, this is a big month for us though.

And if a couple of positive results can be put together then that momentum could be key...

I can't stress enough what a difference it makes when you put a good run together – and we do have that opportunity. We experienced something similar at this time of the year during the season we first qualified for Europe in 2009 and in many ways that shaped our season. You take one match at a time and carry that confidence and positivity through to the next. We went on a similar run last year too, where we picked up that win at Stoke and carried that on through into the New Year.

The Bolton match will be the second of three fixtures in just eight days at Craven Cottage – how important is that home advantage?

We all know how good we can be at the Cottage and over the past few seasons our home form has been superb. Not too many teams have got the better of us here, and certainly very few have dominated the game. Home games are always important



and we're confident that we can beat any team at the Cottage – something that has been proven many times. I don't think many teams enjoy coming here, Manchester United (Wednesday's opponents) included.

certainly won't be taking them lightly. Like ourselves, Bolton are fighting it out in the bottom half of the table so they'll come here in determined mood. This is an important game for both clubs.

"THE PREMIER LEAGUE IS TOUGH, NO MATTER WHAT TIME OF THE YEAR IT IS. WE'RE STRONG AT HOME, SO HOPEFULLY WE CAN MAKE THE MOST OF THESE GAMES."

As a team, what sort of threat do Bolton bring with them?

Games against Bolton are never easy and we have had some real battles with them down the years. Traditionally, they are big and strong and they make life very difficult for their opponents. At the same time they have some very technical players too, so they are an interesting team to go up against. They beat us at Craven Cottage in the FA Cup last year, so we

As you said, you guys are fighting it out in the bottom half of the table at present – are you confident that we will see an improvement in terms of league position? Because despite that, you have been playing some great football at times...

We are confident that we can turn things around, and I think anyone that has seen us on a regular basis this season will agree that we have been desperately unlucky. We should have

more to show for our efforts, but that's football. We have a lot of quality, a lot of experience and a lot of talented young players – it's a good mix. Had we been playing badly then there may be more of a concern, but we haven't, in fact we have played some really good stuff. Perhaps we could do with scoring a few more goals, but that will come. For me, sooner rather than later we will get back on track.

Once again, you have been one of the team's stand-out performers this season, but a positive campaign so far for you personally hasn't come without frustration...

Although I have been involved lately, at the start of the campaign I was out of the team and of course that was frustrating. It was probably only towards the end of August, early September that I won my place back, but I have had moments like that ever since I first arrived at the Club, it's something that I have had to deal with. I'm working with my fourth Fulham Manager now and under all of them I have had to fight to prove that I am deserving of a place

in the starting XI. But I'm confident in my ability and whenever I have been given the chance, I have shown what I can do and played my part. Confidence is a massive thing for me, and I just have to keep playing well and doing all I can for the team.

More than ever as well this season, we have seen your ability at the other end of the pitch too, with a number of decent shots at goal...

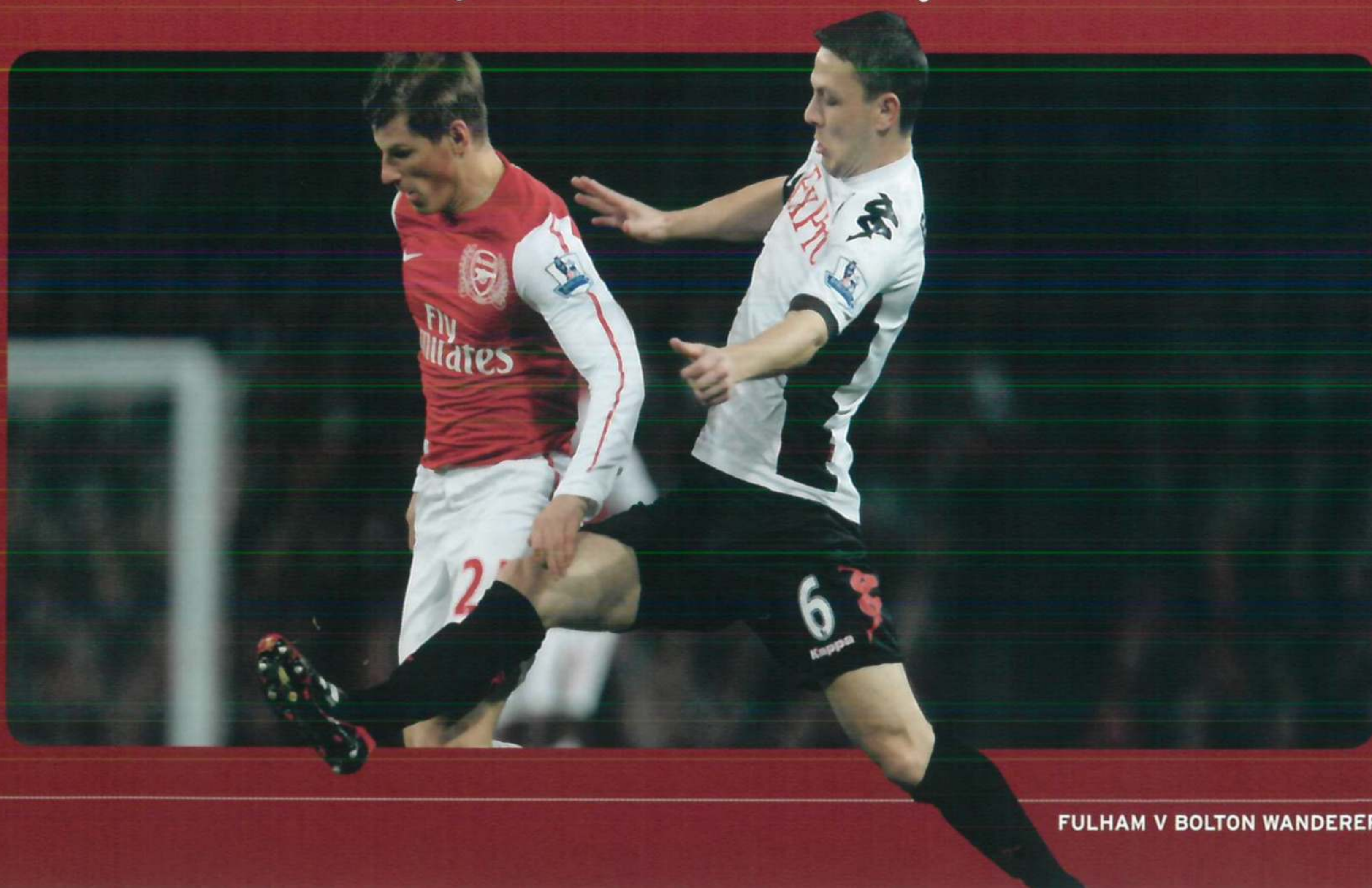
Well, I managed to get a couple of goals last year and I'm desperate to add a few more. I know that I have a good strike on me and it's important that I utilise that a bit more. In training I work hard on that area of my game and when the opportunity presents itself in a match I'm always willing to have a go. First and foremost I am in the team to keep the goals out, but if I can chip in with a few goals too then that's great. I've had quite a few chances this season and I've been hitting the target – eventually one has to go in doesn't it?!

As a youngster you did play as a striker didn't you?

I did, yes, and I wasn't too bad you know? We're talking about a long time ago now, but back then I was known to score a few. It was something that I loved and if you told me then that I would end up as a defender I probably wouldn't have believed you! But I think it worked out for me in the end.

And finally Chris, you mentioned how testing the Christmas period can be – but at the same time, with so many points up for grabs, it also serves as a chance to push ourselves up the table doesn't it?

It does, you're right. We know that we have to face some of the top teams but we would have to play them at some point anyway. The Premier League is always tough, no matter what time of the year it is. We're strong at home, so hopefully we can make the most of these games, while we know that we need to address our away form. There are plenty of points to be won, and it would be nice to enter the New Year in a more positive position. This team has a lot going for it and I'm sure that our luck will change – it has to. ■



THE PENALTY SHOOT-OUT



FULHAM



BOLTON WANDERERS

HIT MISS

1. Which player scored twice in the Whites' 3-0 Premier League defeat of Bolton at the Cottage last season?

HIT MISS

2. True or False: Clint Dempsey and Bolton's Stuart Holden were both part of USA's 2006 and 2010 World Cup squads?

HIT MISS

3. Who scored a 91st-minute equaliser at the Cottage in a 1-1 draw in August 2006: Heidar Helguson, Franck Queudrue or Jimmy Bullard?

HIT MISS

4. True or False: Dickson Etuhu spent time on loan at Bolton?

HIT MISS

5. In August 2004 which player scored both goals in a 2-0 home win against the Trotters: Collins John, Brian McBride or Andrew Cole?

HIT MISS

1. In which year did former Fulham defender Zat Knight sign for Bolton: 2008, 2009 or 2010?

HIT MISS

2. During his loan spell at Craven Cottage last season against which team did Gael Kakuta score his only Fulham goal: Sunderland, Peterborough or Wigan?

HIT MISS

3. Who scored the only goal in Bolton's FA Cup Fifth Round win here last February?

HIT MISS

4. Nigel Reo-Coker and Bobby Zamora played alongside one another at which London club?

HIT MISS

5. True or False: Darren Pratley started his career at Fulham?

0/5

0/5

HALF-TIME BREAK



MYSTERY MAN: WHO AM I?

I left West Ham in May 1978 and signed for Fulham in a £60,000 deal having initially replaced Bobby Moore in the Hammers' defence when he made the move to Craven Cottage. Although a centre-back by trade, I was moved to left-back

where I would score an impressive 29 goals in seven seasons. A set-piece specialist I was also strong in the air and an excellent passer of the ball. I helped the Whites to promotion at the end of the 1981/82 season and scored at Anfield and the Cottage in the Club's epic League Cup encounters against Liverpool in '83. I left two years later to sign for Southend.

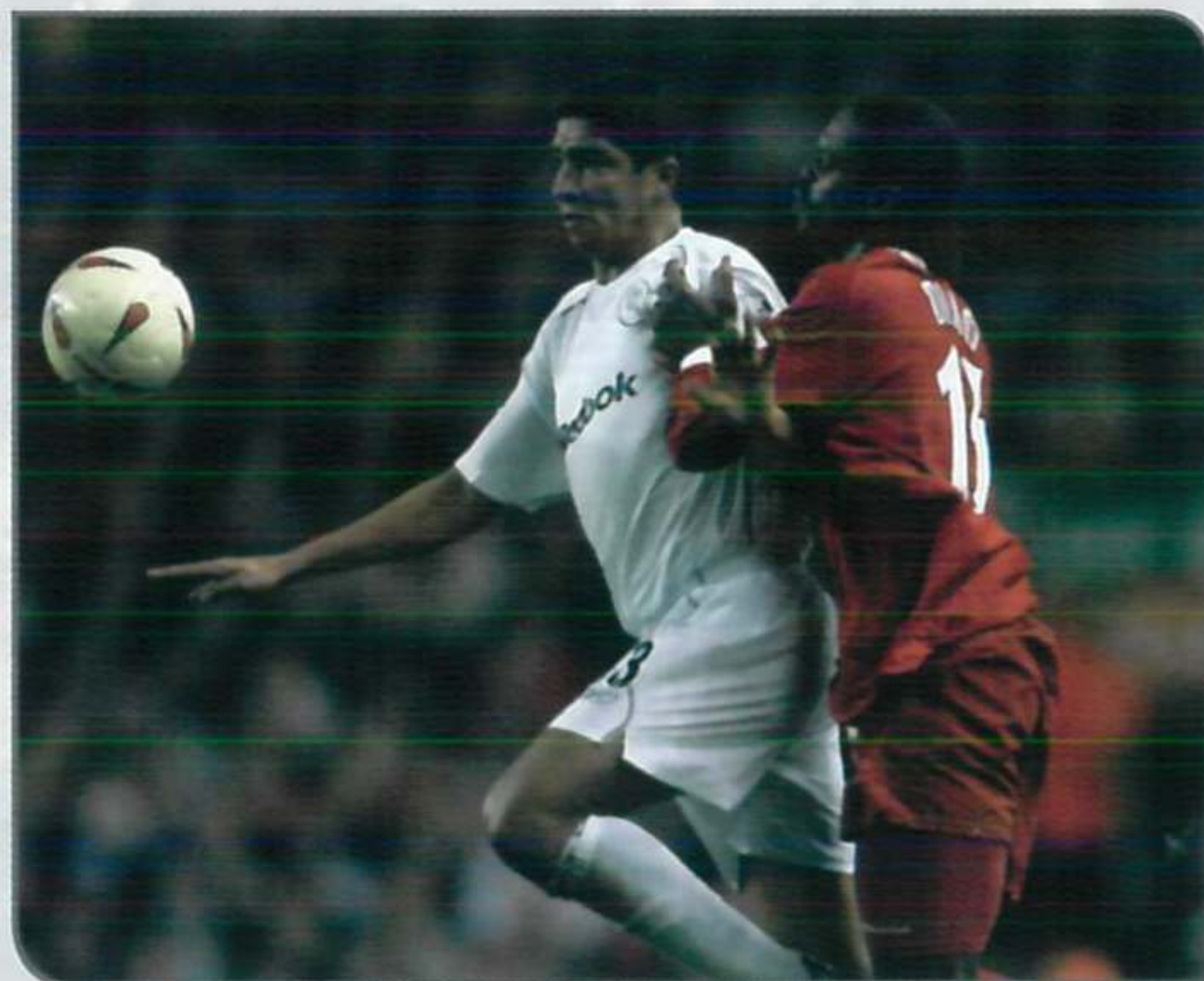
BLAST FROM THE PAST

Can you identify the former Fulham (1) and Bolton (2) players from years gone by in the images below?

1.



2.



Answers: The Penalty Shootout: Fulham: 1. Clint Dempsey, 2. False (only in 2010), 3. Jimmy Bullard, 4. False, 5. Andrew Cole. Bolton: 1. 2009, 2. Sunderland, 3. Ivan Klasnic, 4. West Ham, 5. True. Blast From The Past: 1. Wayne Collins, 2. Mario Jardel. Mystery Man: Kevin Lock.



FFC JUNIORS

DID YOU KNOW?

BOLTON'S ZAT KNIGHT AND DARREN PRATLEY BOTH CAME THROUGH THE YOUTH RANKS AT FULHAM.

5-A-SIDE

WHICH 5-A-SIDE TEAM COMES OUT ON TOP? THE WHITES OR THE TROTTERS?



BOBBY ZAMORA

WHO WAS OLDER WHEN THEY MADE THEIR INTERNATIONAL DEBUT?



KEVIN DAVIES



NEIL ETHERIDGE

WHO HAS MORE INTERNATIONAL CAPS?



GARY CAHILL



CLINT DEMPSEY

WHICH PLAYER HAS WON THE MLS CUP?



STUART HOLDEN



DANNY MURPHY

WHICH PLAYER HAS PLAYED MORE GAMES FOR THEIR CLUB?



RICARDO GARDNER



BRYAN RUIZ

WHICH PLAYER SPENT LAST SEASON IN THE DUTCH EREDIVISIE?



TUNCAY SANLI

SCORE



WHO'S THIS?

HOME MASCOTS

WILLIAM ALLEN

Hobbies: Football

Fave FFC Player/s: Brede Hangeland and Mousa Dembélé



THOMAS GARLAND

Hobbies: Football

Fave FFC Player: Clint Dempsey
Wants to be: A footballer or travel critic



AWAY MASCOT

JONATHAN MCCAUL

Fave BWFC Player: Chris Eagles
Wants to be: A football manager



MATCH OF THE DAY
MAGAZINE

THANK YOU MOTD!

Thank you to Match of the Day Magazine who kindly provided copies of their latest issue to our junior supporters in the Family Fun Zone before today's match. The Fulham Family Zone, located under Block K of the Johnny Haynes Stand, is the perfect excuse for our junior fans to arrive early with their families before each home fixture and take part in some fun pre-match activities. We hope to see you there soon!



THE FULHAM TEAM

A MINUTE'S APPLAUSE FOR GARY SPEED







5 QUESTIONS ABOUT CHRIS BAIRD

1. WHICH COUNTRY DOES BAIRDY REPRESENT AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL?

2. WHO DID CHRIS SCORE HIS FIRST FULHAM GOAL AGAINST: SUNDERLAND, STOKE OR BOLTON?

3. WHICH CURRENT HIGH-FLYING CHAMPIONSHIP CLUB DID HE JOIN FULHAM FROM IN JULY 2007?

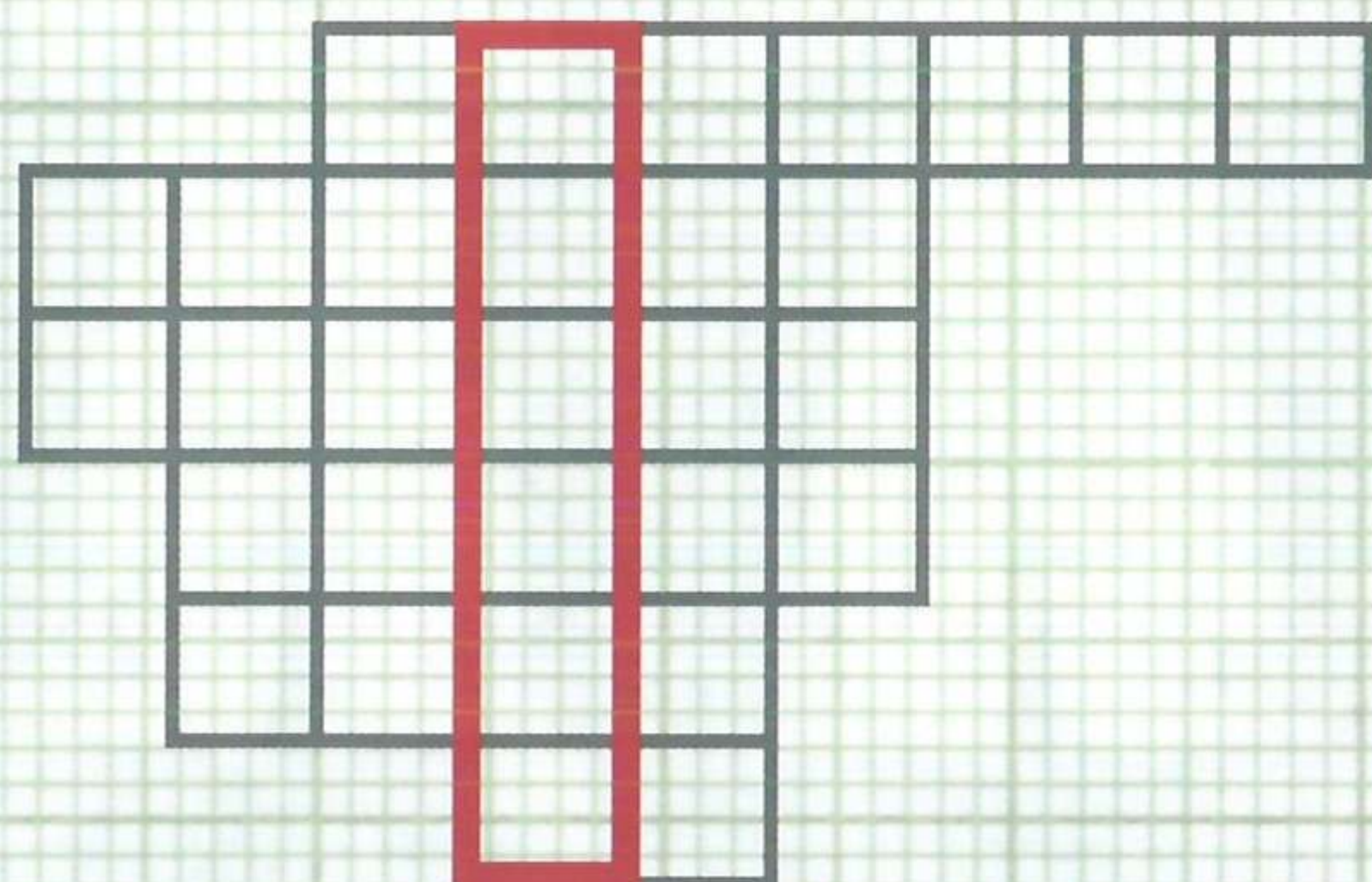
4. HOW OLD IS THE VERSATILE DEFENDER: 27, 28 OR 29?

5. TRUE OR FALSE: WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER CHRIS USED TO PLAY AS A STRIKER?

WORD PUZZLE

CAN YOU WORK OUT THE NAME OF THE BOLTON PLAYER HIDDEN IN THE GRID BELOW BY PUTTING THE SIX FULHAM PLAYERS IN THE CORRECT LINE?

(BRIGGS, DEMBÉLÉ, FREI, KASAMI, KELLY, SA)



CLUB SHARE

WHICH ONE TEAM HAVE THESE THREE PLAYERS ALL PLAYED FOR?



ANDREW JOHNSON



STEPHEN KELLY



FABRICE MUAMBA

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

THERE ARE 5 DIFFERENCES BELOW, CAN YOU SPOT THEM ALL?



Answers: 5 QUESTIONS ABOUT CHRIS BAIRD: 1. Northern Ireland, 2. Stoke, 3. Southampton, 4. 29, 5. True. CLUB SHARE: They have all played for Birmingham City. WORD PUZZLE: 1. Dembélé, 2. Kasami, 3. Briggs, 4. Kelly, 5. Frei, 6. Sa (Hidden player: Eagles). SPOT THE DIFFERENCE: 1. The logos on Dembélé's socks have vanished. 2. The Europa League badge on Kevin Frei's arm is missing. 3. Marcel Gecov and Brede Hangeland have swapped heads. 4. The logos on Neil Etheridge's top have swapped. 5. Chris Baird is wearing a Santa hat.

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NAME: **MICHAEL COLE-JOHNSON**

AGE: **29**

OCCUPATION: **TEACHER**

Why Fulham? It's in the family - my Father's side were all fans, and then easily converted the other side to Fulham too - not hard as they supported QPR!

First game? It was a home game against Northampton, but I really can't recall too much about it - I think we lost! I must have been about eight at the time.

Game to remember? Manchester City v Fulham during the 'Great Escape' season. On the way up we met with some friends who are Reading fans as they were playing Wigan away - both sets of supporters were very nervous. The game itself was just amazing - from being relegated at half-time to winning and having a chance to stay up! The emotions that we went through that day and the feeling after we won were just incredible - I'll never forget it! I have never hugged/ been hugged by so many Fulham fans in one match before. We met up with the same Reading fans on the way back - needless to say they



Mike Conroy

were broken as they only managed a draw... They knew it and we knew it - the Whites were staying up!

Game to forget? Boxing Day 2006, Tottenham 5 Fulham 1 - enough said. It spoilt my Christmas.

Favourite Fulham player of all-time? My first real Fulham hero was Mike Conroy. I live and grew up near Wycombe and when he lobbed their 'keeper from the halfway line he became my all-time favourite. I also loved his passion on the pitch during the promotion season - including when he shouted at a ball boy to hurry up!

Favourite current Fulham player? Brede Hangeland is just immense at the back - I love how he brings the ball forward.

Fantasy Fulham five-a-side team: Mark Schwarzer, Brede Hangeland, Chris Coleman, Steed Malbranque and Mike Conroy (although Louis Saha would run him close!)

If you could sign one player from Bolton who would it be? My head would say Chris Eagles who seems to be doing the business this season and scoring some important goals, but my heart says Sean Davis - it would be great to see him back home!

Expectations for the season: Top 10 - I think we're starting to get things right and just need the goals now as we have been so unlucky recently.

Score Prediction: I think we'll beat them: Fulham 2 Bolton Wanderers 0.

OBITUARIES

BARRIE HOOPER

The Club extends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of Barrie Hooper who passed away suddenly on 8th November, aged 70.

Barrie was a lifelong Fulham supporter and former Fulham Flutter agent, a popular figure on a matchday outside the Hammersmith End. His favourite players were Johnny Haynes and Alan Mullery, and he took great delight from chatting to Alan about football when he found himself living around the corner from him.

His proudest Fulham moment was the 1975 Cup Final and he attended all the matches, home and away, on that epic Cup run, with Pat, Terry and H.

The family's Fulham support will continue with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be sadly missed.



JONJO'S WALK

We recently received this touching letter from a young football fan called Jonjo, who is raising money for bowel cancer.

"My name is Jonjo and I am nine-years-old.

"In February this year I walked 23 miles in three days from the Bobby Moore statue at Wembley Stadium to the centre circle of West Ham United's pitch. I did my walk in memory of my Nanny and Bobby Moore because they both died from bowel cancer. I chose those stadiums because Bobby Moore played at them both.

"I walked to help The Bobby Moore Fund for Cancer Research UK. So far I have raised more than £37,000 in funds and in excess of £1million in publicity for my charity.

"My walk was really great. Lots of people have asked me to do it again and I want to because I want to raise more money.

"So, on 23rd February 2012 I will be walking again. I will start at Wembley and finish on the centre circle of West Ham v Crystal Palace on 25th February 2012. It will be 23 miles again and will take me three days.

"I am writing to you because I need lots of help. Cancer does not follow one football team, it hurts people from lots of teams. I really want lots of people to walk with me in their team shirts. They don't need to walk every day, they can join in for a small bit if they want. I hope you will be able to tell your friends and supporters about me and ask them if they will walk too.

"They can see the route and register on my website www.fornannyandbobby.moonfruit.com. If they don't want to walk, but would like to make a donation they can donate online at www.justgiving.com/fornannyandbobby.

"Thank you for reading this. I really hope you can help me. From Jonjo :O)"



NOTICEBOARD

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(1) LUCAS ALLOWAY

Happy 10th birthday to Lucas Alloway who is celebrating today with a trip to the Cottage. Love from your Dad Tony.

(2) ED BISHOP

Belated birthday wishes to Fulham fan and Season Ticket Holder Ed Bishop, who was 20 on 16th November. Lots of love from your Mum, Janet.

(3) STEFAN CARLSSON

Birthday greetings to Stefan Carlsson whose loving children Agnes and Edvin wrote in to tell us:

"Our dad Stefan Carlsson will celebrate his 42nd birthday at Craven Cottage today. Since we moved from Sweden to the UK last autumn, he has become a huge FFC fan and also a STH. Three points today would certainly be a nice birthday gift! Come on you Whites! Agnes & Edvin" (via Mum/wife Annelie)

ALAN GOOCH

Happy 60th birthday to Alan Gooch from all the family (celebrating in Thameside box 8)

(4) OLIVER HINGE

A happy 12th birthday today to Oliver Hinge, from Dad, Sandra, Elise, Toby & Edward.

HELLO!

(5) THE STRAFFONS

A big hello this afternoon to the Straffon family who emigrated to Papamoa, New Zealand, from Epsom, Surrey three years ago and are back this year to spend Christmas with family.

Dad Mark has been a huge Fulham fan since childhood, following the team home and away, from the old Division Four to the Premier League, and both his children (pictured), Isobel (11) and Dawson (8) also support the Whites.

Isobel has been to Fulham matches before (approx. 15) and has never seen us lose. Her favourite player is Clint Dempsey.

Dawson was too young to bring before so this will be his first Fulham, or any, professional match, so he is really looking forward to it.

Let's hope the team put on a show for you all today!

WELCOME!

(6) WIGMORE YOUTH FC UNDER-13s

A special Fulham welcome today to the players, family and friends of Wigmore Youth FC Under-13s who have been brought here today as a pre-Christmas treat by their manager Geoff Green.

We hope you pick up some good tips watching the Whites today, lads!

Send your photos, stories, Featured Fan entries, and messages about life following Fulham FC to publications@fulhamfc.com or post them to: Publications, Fulham FC Training Ground, Motspur Park, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 6PT

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THE VIEW FROM THE STANDS

EACH MATCHDAY WE'RE ASKING OUR FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER AND FACEBOOK TO SHARE THEIR OPINIONS ON TOPICAL FOOTBALL AND FULHAM MATTERS.

THIS WEEK, AS THE TEAM PLAY THE FIFTH OF EIGHT MATCHES IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WHILST MUCH OF EUROPE TAKES A BREAK FROM ACTION, THE SUBJECT OF OUR DEBATE IS:

DO YOU THINK THERE IS A CASE FOR A WINTER BREAK, OR SHOULD THE BUSY FESTIVE SCHEDULE BE LEFT AS IT IS?

facebook

Jack Benjamin Cox: What would I watch if football wasn't on over the winter?! It would be even more depressing!

Dren Shporta: Bad for players! Good for us (footballiacs)!

Paul Stevens: I believe, and always have, that football should be scheduled for a time of year when we can reasonably expect to have fine weather.

Ben Glover: I think it's better to have a break for 2 games over the festive period rather than have an unexpected cancellation because of snow.

Stewart Gibbons: It's ok saying have a winter break at a set time as potential bad weather. But last year November had the worst weather and I remember years when Feb and March had bad weather. Is it really for the benefit of the game, or just for the players to get a break?

Max Richards: The Christmas period is the time of the year all fans look forward to! It can make or break teams and there are always exciting games. Getting rid of the busy period and bringing in a break would ruin it in my opinion.

Dean Pill: No, it's all part of the football experience. With international breaks, the season is fragmented enough as it is.

Ruth MacDougall: Leave it as it is. My godson is going to his first game with me over Xmas. Boxing Day watching the Whites has been our family tradition for years. Why change it?

Craig Dobson: Crazy schedule for players. I wouldn't suggest a full winter break, but perhaps a scaling back of fixtures around the period.

Adam Doyle: The busy Christmas fixtures help prevent festive cabin fever. Chelsea away on Boxing Day is far more preferable than scrabble with the in-laws.

twitter

@towiexx: If it means the summer break is shorter then yer, maybe. Summer break is far too long!

@jayallen: Why not have a break after the festive period?

@dhamffc: Things should stay as they are. It's not a proper Christmas without a game on boxing day!! #notoxmasbreak.

@MeganEliza95: Football in Britain has always been a winter sport so why change it?

@LaurenBabiiiee: I think the December period brings a good competitive streak, which every team finds a struggle. Spices things up, it should stay.

@AndrewGuerin22: I'd love to play that many games a month. The amount players get paid they should enjoy it and count themselves fortunate.

@ChrisGilbertson: As a fan I love the festive games, so perhaps any winter break could take place after FA Cup third round?

@DrycleanPlus: Totally agree with a winter break it's a no brainer. Fans have trouble travelling, frozen pitches and footballers wearing gloves!

@wileykaiOT: With the winter break there would be no way to spend Christmas with my second family, Fulham!

Follow us on Twitter @FulhamFC or become a fan on Facebook at facebook.com/fulhamfc and look out today for our next Big Debate in the build-up to the next home game, against Liverpool, early next month.

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BLACK, WHITE, AND READ ALL OVER

CLAIRE HARMER RUNS THE RULE OVER FULHAM'S RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE

Clint Dempsey loves to score against Liverpool. His winner last Monday was the third he has netted against the Reds in five years.

It wasn't the most significant of the three strikes - the first in May 2007 ensured Fulham avoided relegation - but it will certainly mean a lot to the Texan.

As he pushed the ball beyond Pepe Reina he notched his 37th Fulham league goal and became the most prolific American player in Premier League history, surpassing another Fulham hero - Brian McBride.

To most of us, it is a side note in what will go down as a great win at a crucial stage of the season. But over the pond, the American press delighted in the achievement.

In his New York Times Soccer blog, John Godfrey declared, "the 28-year-old Texan is well on his way to becoming the greatest American outfield player. Some would argue he has a good chance to become the best American soccer player, period."

Elsewhere, Marcus Kwesi O'Mard can hardly believe the former New England Revolution star's success story. "Even if he never scores another goal in England (he will), Dempsey's European adventure will go down as an unqualified success," he proclaimed in his New England Sports Network column.

And self-confessed Liverpool fan and Clint Dempsey aficionado Alexander Fairchild was left equally stunned, as he expressed in his EPL Talk article. "It was amazing to me how one man could come so far from a MLS team in southern Massachusetts, to breaking the hearts of millions wearing red, myself included."

Yet the victory over Liverpool was not a one-man show. Back at home the reporters braving the cold at Craven Cottage were treated to a superb team performance from Fulham.

The Sun's Antony Kastrinakis must have struggled when choosing his man-of-the match, so impressed was he with a number of Fulham's warriors. "The way Martin Jol's Cottagers claimed this hard-fought victory was down to the guts and commitment of four men," he stated. "Goalscorer Dempsey, Mousa Dembélé, Dickson Etuhu and Danny Murphy ran 10-man Liverpool ragged all night."

He eventually settled on Dembélé, and wasn't alone in his praise of Mousa. The Guardian's Richard Williams was also wowed by the Belgian's performance. "Dembélé looked to have the makings of a player capable of delighting Craven Cottage for many seasons to come," he claimed. "Roving across the width of the pitch, but doing his best work in the arc behind the main striker, he covers the ground with a supple, low-slung grace, disguises his passes beautifully and needs only to refine his shooting."

And now a warning for Billy the Badger. The gauntlet has been laid down. It's time for our mascot to up his act. While the game against Swansea a week ago should be quickly forgotten, the half-time exploits of Billy's Welsh counterpart found their way into Graham Clutton's match report in The Telegraph.

Clutton revealed the half-time show in south Wales featured "Cyril the Swan, a group of starry-eyed kids... and a penalty shoot-out that invariably leads to Cyril conceding all six penalties. It was great fun."

Billy is no stranger to the back pages, having starred in a series of photos as he consoled Avram Grant, whose Chelsea side trailed Fulham at the break in January 2008, not to mention an infamous sending-off for a breakdance that encroached onto the pitch, a story that saw The Sun print a follow-up interview with the badger himself.



But that was four years ago and now, Billy's place as the media's star mascot is under threat. Cyril is the new kid on the block, and as we found to our cost last week, those pesky Swans can be hard to shake off.

We may have left Swansea feeling frustrated, but Clutton, proving he wasn't there just for the half-time entertainment, took heart from the way the lads picked themselves up after going behind. "When Dempsey deflected Sinclair's shot past Mark Schwarzer, Fulham responded immediately. It was a genuine test, for both sides," he wrote.

Meanwhile the BBC's Peter Shuttleworth included some essential stats in his write-up to ease the pain just a little further. He reminded us that "only reigning champions Manchester United have won in South Wales this season," and that the result saw the new boys keep their sixth home clean sheet, "the best tally in the Premier League."

So we were unable to match an achievement that only Manchester United can boast. That's not so bad. We've beaten Liverpool at home. Chelsea couldn't. COYW!

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AROUND THE PREMIER LEAGUE

IAN MCCULLOCH ROUNDS-UP SOME OF THE BIG STORIES SURROUNDING THE BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE IN RECENT WEEKS

The biggest surprise of the last couple of weeks was seeing the two

Manchester superpowers crash out of the Group Stages of the UEFA Champions League.

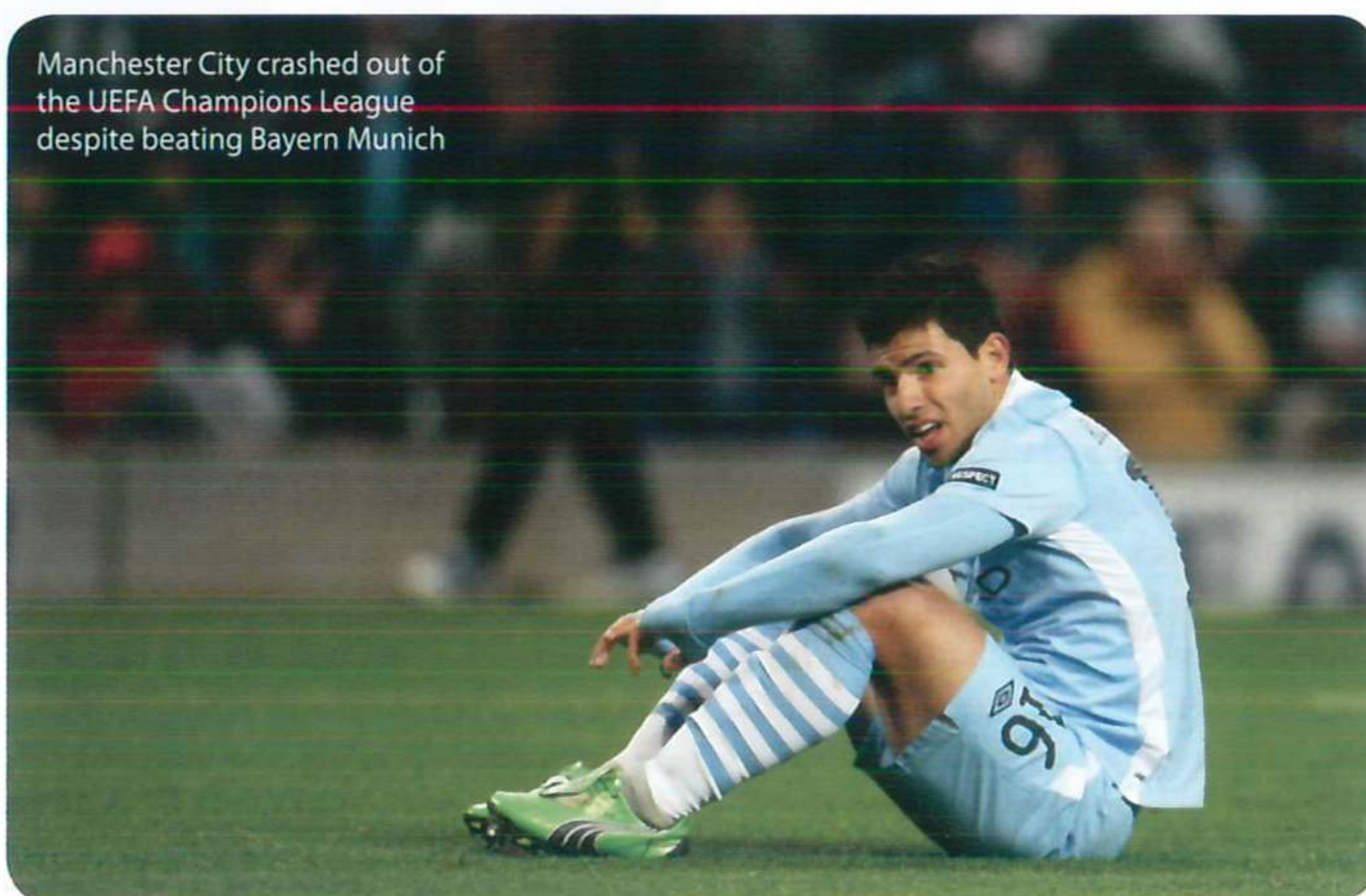
It might have given fans of rival teams up and down the country something to smirk about, but it sent shivers down the spines of the rest of the clubs in the Premier League who will be wondering what effect it will have on England's UEFA co-efficient ranking – and whether it will reduce the number of teams able to qualify for European tournaments in the future.

Tottenham boss Harry Redknapp, speaking before the demise of the Premier League's top two teams, had another viewpoint on the matter: "I don't like to say it," he announced. "But it wouldn't do us any harm to see Chelsea and City in the Europa League."

"It's harder than playing in the Champions League because of that Thursday night-Sunday afternoon schedule you get. You know most of the teams in the Champions League and you're not travelling to the far-flung corners of Europe. In the Europa League you're schlepping all over the place."

He was, however, scathing about the principle that sees the Champions League dropouts descend into the latter stages of the Europa League, likening that situation to a team being awarded a Carling Cup semi-final place as a reward for being knocked out of the

Manchester City crashed out of the UEFA Champions League despite beating Bayern Munich



FA Cup. "How can you go from the Champions League to the Europa League?" he questioned. "If you get knocked out, you are out of it, surely. What are you doing going into another competition?"

"Even if you win it, you must feel, 'Well, we really weren't in it at the start, we didn't have to play all those silly qualifying games.' It just doesn't make sense to me."

Both Manchester managers made the right noises about finding themselves in the Europa and both announced their intention to win the thing, although Sir Alex Ferguson did have to backtrack somewhat, having initially described his club's participation in the tournament as a 'punishment'.

"When I say it's a punishment for us to enter the Europa League, it is that for 20 years all we've thought

about is winning that European Cup," he backpedalled, after UEFA President Michel Platini publicly criticised Sir Alex for his statement. "So it's not a slight against the Europa League because it's a competition you want to win. We're in it and we'll try and win it."

City boss Roberto Mancini was also philosophical after his side's elimination. "I think that, for Manchester City, the Europa League is an important trophy, because we need to win more trophies if possible," he said. "It is not the Champions League but it will be important. The Europa League is harder because we play Thursday and won't have a lot of time to recover for the games. But this will be the only difference. If we can go to the Final then I think for Manchester City it will be good." ►

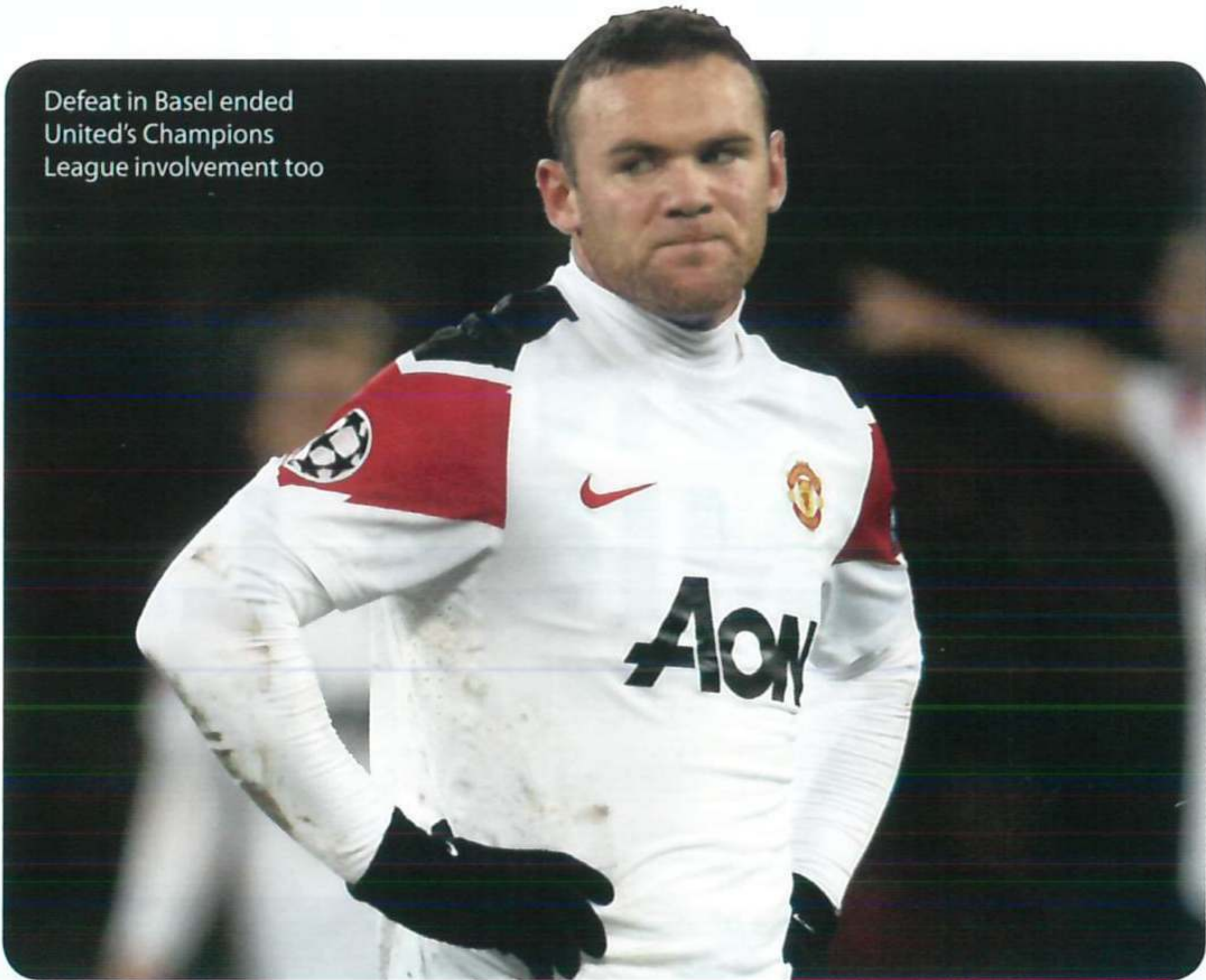
In other news, a whole raft of statistics on the Premier League were publicised recently. As increasingly seems to be the case these days, what players and clubs actually do on the pitch is in danger of being completely overshadowed by how successful they are on all the various social networks. It's difficult to take a lot of it seriously, but some of the figures make for interesting reading.

First up there's Twitter, apparently the preferred place to go to find out what's happening on the transfer front. And now someone has worked out which players had the biggest following during the last close season. Top of the list was Cesc Fabregas, who had something like two million fans and did change clubs, followed by Wesley Sneijder, Carlos Tevez and Luka Modric, who also attracted an enormous number of followers but didn't actually go anywhere. Presumably the lid would blow off the Internet if any of them ever did change clubs. Top of the Premier League in admirer terms currently is Wayne Rooney – he heads the table with 2.2 million followers, followed by Rio Ferdinand and, rather surprisingly, Jack Wilshere, Joey Barton and Michael Owen.

Then there's Facebook and the number of fans who profess to 'like' a particular team. Thus we find, not unexpectedly, that Manchester United are far and away the most popular Premier League club, although 'most popular' really doesn't do justice to how far in front of everyone else they are. More than 20 million people claim to be fans of the Red Devils. Twenty million! And they're just the ones with computers. No wonder they have a waiting list for season tickets. And to put it in context, the second most popular club on the list are Arsenal with just over eight million - 13 million behind. That's a lot of potential extra shirt sales for United right there.

Depressingly, Chelsea are third with just under eight million

Defeat in Basel ended United's Champions League involvement too



followers, then Liverpool, a few thousand behind them. They really are the big four, because next up are Manchester City with around a million and a half, and that's a big difference from the clubs above them. It seems City have quite a way to go in their quest for world domination. Behind them are Spurs, Villa, Newcastle and Everton then Fulham, in a creditable 10th place with 54,704 Facebook 'likes'. For a supposed 'small' club that's not

too bad, and, surprisingly, ahead of better-supported clubs like Sunderland [34,000]. For the record, QPR sit in 13th place with 36,000 fans, then come Wolves, Blackburn, Norwich, Swansea, Bolton and West Brom. Bottom of the pile are Wigan with a combined social network following of just 12,508 lonely souls – whether that says more about their popularity or their computer literacy, who can tell? ■

PREMIER LEAGUE SOCIAL MEDIA RANKING
(AS OF DECEMBER 2011)

	Club	Facebook	Twitter	Total	Month +/-
1	Man United	20,269,260	0	20,269,260	+ 220,561
2.	Arsenal	8,155,842	1,061,636	9,217,478	+ 285,794
3.	Chelsea	7,885,970	501,375	8,387,345	+ 312,061
4.	Liverpool	7,598,225	583,482	8,181,707	+ 248,282
5.	Man City	1,414,651	164,104	1,578,755	+ 183,460
6.	Tottenham	881,330	110,436	991,766	+ 37,930
7.	Aston Villa	321,886	30,692	352,578	+ 34,429
8.	Newcastle	210,304	37,168	247,472	+ 12,728
9.	Everton	192,334	29,277	221,611	+ 6,798
10.	Fulham	54,704	26,626	81,330	+ 4,087
11.	Sunderland	33,927	27,598	61,525	+ 4,175
12.	Stoke City	38,655	16,322	54,977	+ 2,498
13.	QPR	35,919	17,038	52,957	+ 6,267
14.	Wolves	24,900	19,355	44,255	+ 2,237
15.	Blackburn	27,564	10,090	37,654	+ 2,782
16.	Norwich	14,022	20,935	34,957	+ 3,239
17.	Swansea	24,285	0	24,285	+ 1,494
18.	Bolton	9,718	11,912	21,630	+ 1,728
19.	West Brom	11,201	5,384	16,585	+ 1,395
20.	Wigan	5,342	7,166	12,508	+ 831



Celebrate the 20,000th goal

We've seen robots, knee slides, back-flips and swallow dives. In December 2011 one celebration will also stand out when the 20,000th Premier League goal is scored.

To mark the occasion Barclays are giving away the chance to win a VIP trip for you and 5 mates to see the team of your choice.

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A-Z OF FULHAM

H CLUB HISTORIAN DENNIS TURNER TAKES AN ALPHABETICAL LOOK AT ALL THINGS FULHAM



Hat-trick specialist
Jim Hammond

AJ's welcome hat-trick against QPR in October is now accepted as our first in the Premier League, although in

more generous days, that honour might have been claimed by Heidar Helguson.

Heidar scored two in our 6-1 February 2006 demolition of West Bromwich Albion, while a third effort, which at one time might have been credited to him, was deflected in by Albion defender Curtis Davies.

Although there have been no other hat-tricks in the Premier League, Diomansy Kamara managed one in the FA Cup Third Round against Peterborough last season, and Steed Malbranque also bagged a treble in a 3-0 FA Cup win over Charlton in January 2003. A few months earlier, Junichi Inamoto found the net three times in the thrilling Intertoto Cup Final win over Bologna.

Since we joined the League in 1907, 59 different players have scored 136

hat-tricks for us (including Ronnie Rooke's two trebles in one game against Bury in 1939). Of the total, 123 were in the League, eight in the FA Cup, four in the League Cup and one in the Intertoto.

The first was by Bob Dalrymple in a 4-2 win at Lincoln in October 1907, number one of three he managed in a season in which we scored hat-tricks in five games.

Our leading hat-trick scorer is Jim Hammond, the footballer-cricketer of the interwar era who managed 10 between 1929 and 1937. His one-time striking partner, Ronnie Rooke, also scored 10 trebles, and in just four seasons, but he did it in nine matches since two came in the Bury Cup tie.

Since 1945, Graham Leggat tops the list with eight, including three goals in three minutes against Ipswich on Boxing Day 1963, the fastest hat-trick in top-flight history.

Against Stockport in March 1913, Tim Coleman and Bert Pearce bagged three each, a feat Roy Dwight and Roy Bentley repeated against Port Vale in February 1957, as did Leggat and Bobby Howfield in the aforementioned 10-1

Boxing Day 1963 massacre of Ipswich.

The near 11-year gap between Barry Hayles' hat-trick against Watford on Boxing Day 2000 and AJ's versus Rangers this season was a record for the League. It comfortably beat the seven years between Tony Sealy's treble against Wolves in 1985 and the three that Sean Farrell scored at West Brom in 1992.

At the other end of the spectrum, five in our debut campaign of 1907/08 was the best hat-trick haul for any season until 1929/30, when Hammond (2), Bill Haley (4) and Jimmy Temple lifted the record to seven. This record was equalled in 1956/57 with hat-tricks by Roy Dwight (4), Arthur Stevens, Tosh Chamberlain and Roy Bentley, all in the League, and again in 1958/59 thanks to Johnny Haynes (4), Maurice Cook, Jimmy Hill and Leggat. We also scored six hat-tricks in the promotion year of 1931/32 (but one was in the FA Cup) and again in 1955/56 (plus one in the FA Cup).

Bill Haley (1929/30), Bonzo Newton (1931/32), Ronnie Rooke (1936/37), Roy Dwight (1956/57) and Johnny Haynes (1958/59) share the individual record with four hat-tricks in a season.

HIGH SCORING

Although we have scored 10 in a game twice and eight twice (as well as conceding a 10 and a nine), there have been a number of other games in which the goal total was as high, but more evenly distributed. And there have been a handful of matches when both the home and away games in a single season

produced a remarkable goal tally.

In 1926/27 and 1927/28 for example, there were 16 goals in 180 minutes of football, against Port Vale (a 6-2 win at home and 7-1 defeat away) and Barnsley (3-1 at home and 4-8 at Oakwell respectively). The bar was lifted to 17 against Torquay in 1931 (10-2 and 3-2) and in the same season it rose again,

to 18 goals, in the two games against Coventry - a 5-3 win at the Cottage and a 5-5 draw at Highfield Road.

The highest aggregate score against one club in a season in two League matches was set in 1956/57. In September we thrashed Swansea Town 7-3 at the Cottage and then, in January, went to the Vetch Field and won by the odd goal in nine. There were 19 goals in these two fixtures and Roy Dwight managed a hat-trick in both.

HOME RECORD

Like most clubs, we depend on our home record to provide the springboard for success each season.

Some two thirds of our victories (993 out of 1,452) as a League club have come at the Cottage, as have 3,468 of our 5,470 League points. We have managed to take 59% of the available points at home, compared with just 34% on our travels, with our winning points ratio highest in the old Second Division.

Our best-ever season at home was the promotion season of 1958/59, when we took 55 points from a maximum 63 (87.3%) which just pipped the Kevin Keegan promotion season of 1998/99 when our tally was 60 from a possible 69 (87%). There was just one home defeat in that memorable campaign 13 years ago, the same as 50 years earlier (1948/49), when we won the Second Division championship, a record that was first set in 1912/13 (when there were only



19 games). Rather bizarrely, we lost only two of 21 games at the Cottage in 1927/28 but were still relegated.

In terms of goals, the Second Division years of the 1950s were a golden era. In 147 home League games between 1952 and 1959, we scored 390, an average of 2.7 a game, and conceded 205.

Remarkably, the supporters of that era saw a goal every 22 minutes for seven seasons.

OUR HOME RECORD 1907 - 2011

Tier	Played	Won	Lost	Points
One	442	43%	31%	52%
Two	1038	54%	22%	62%
Three	406	51%	21%	60%
Four	67	51%	21%	60%
Total	1,953	51%	24%	59%



The one and only Maestro

HAYNES, JOHNNY

Few players are so closely identified with a club as Johnny Haynes with Fulham, and few clubs have had a player who so dominates their history as the Maestro does ours.

From the time the schoolboy prodigy signed for us in 1950 until his departure in 1970, he was the outstanding individual at the Club in an era which featured many of the very best players in our history.

The statistics give a flavour of John's achievements: a record number of appearances (658), a goalscoring record (158), capped at every level for England by the age of 21, only the fourth player to win 50 caps

and England captain in 22 of his 56 internationals.

His brilliant control, distribution and tactical awareness set him apart from most players in English football of his generation and those supporters who watched him every week also marvelled at his commitment, inspirational leadership and consistency.

John was a gifted perfectionist on the field, a loyal one-club man, a dictator who was demanding of his team-mates, but off the field he was modest and self-effacing. As the obituaries in The Times used to say, "We shall not see his like again."

ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE FINAL FOR RAYNES PARK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Premier League Enterprise Challenge has become an important milestone in the Enterprise Calendar. This year the Challenge took place on the first day of Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) on 14th November 2011 at Tottenham Hotspur's White Hart Lane.

The Challenge is a yearly competition for Premier League Enterprise Academies (PLEAs), that schools and young people work towards so they can build on the existing enterprise initiatives delivered by Premier League clubs in schools. The Challenge delivers key enterprise messages and provides an opportunity for young people to learn more about different aspects of football club departments, gaining first-hand experience of the running and functioning of a business organisation.

This year the challenge, set by Richard Scudamore, Chief Executive of the Premier League was:

"The Barclays Premier League is one of the most competitive and watched sporting competitions in the world. The Premier League strives to satisfy the justifiably constant demand from League and Club supporters for improved products and services, especially in terms of the matchday experience.

Taking into consideration new technologies and designs, what would you implement to enhance the supporter/matchday experience at Premier League matches?"

Fulham FC Foundation invited local schools to an Enterprise Challenge Day at Craven Cottage in late October and the winning team from Raynes Park High School were selected to represent 'Team Fulham' at the final.

The group, Alexander, Jack, Ciara, Jessica and Talal, came up with a very pioneering idea to install touchscreens into the back of the seats in the proposed new Riverside Stand. Fans could use this system to vote for their man of the match and order food to collect at half-time, as well as rewind and replay the match in case they miss any key moments.

Although they were not overall winners, they were highly commended for their excellent presentation and ideas by chief



judge Adam Jackson, Director of Enterprise and Small Business, from the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS).

For more information on our educational programmes please visit fulhamfc.com/foundation or call 0870 442 5432

fulham football club foundation CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY COURSES

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FULHAM FC COMMUNITY CHAMPION RECOGNISED AT THE TORCH TROPHY TRUST AWARDS

Fulham FC Foundation Community Champion volunteer, Ian Proctor, received an award for the 'most improved volunteer of the year' on Wednesday 30th November at the Torch Trophy Trust annual awards ceremony at The Army and Navy Club on Pall Mall.

Nineteen national volunteers were recognised for their outstanding dedication and commitment to sport at this year's prestigious awards and winners were presented their award by HRH Princess Alexandra. Bobby Charlton, President of the Torch Trophy Trust, was also at the event.

Ian Proctor has been a valued volunteer on the Fulham FC Foundation Community Champions project since July 2009. Ian, who has learning difficulties, coaches on the Down's Syndrome tennis sessions and on the schools holiday activities run by the Foundation. He assists the coaching team by taking young participants for warm-ups whilst the coaches prepare the session and

supports them during drills and matches.

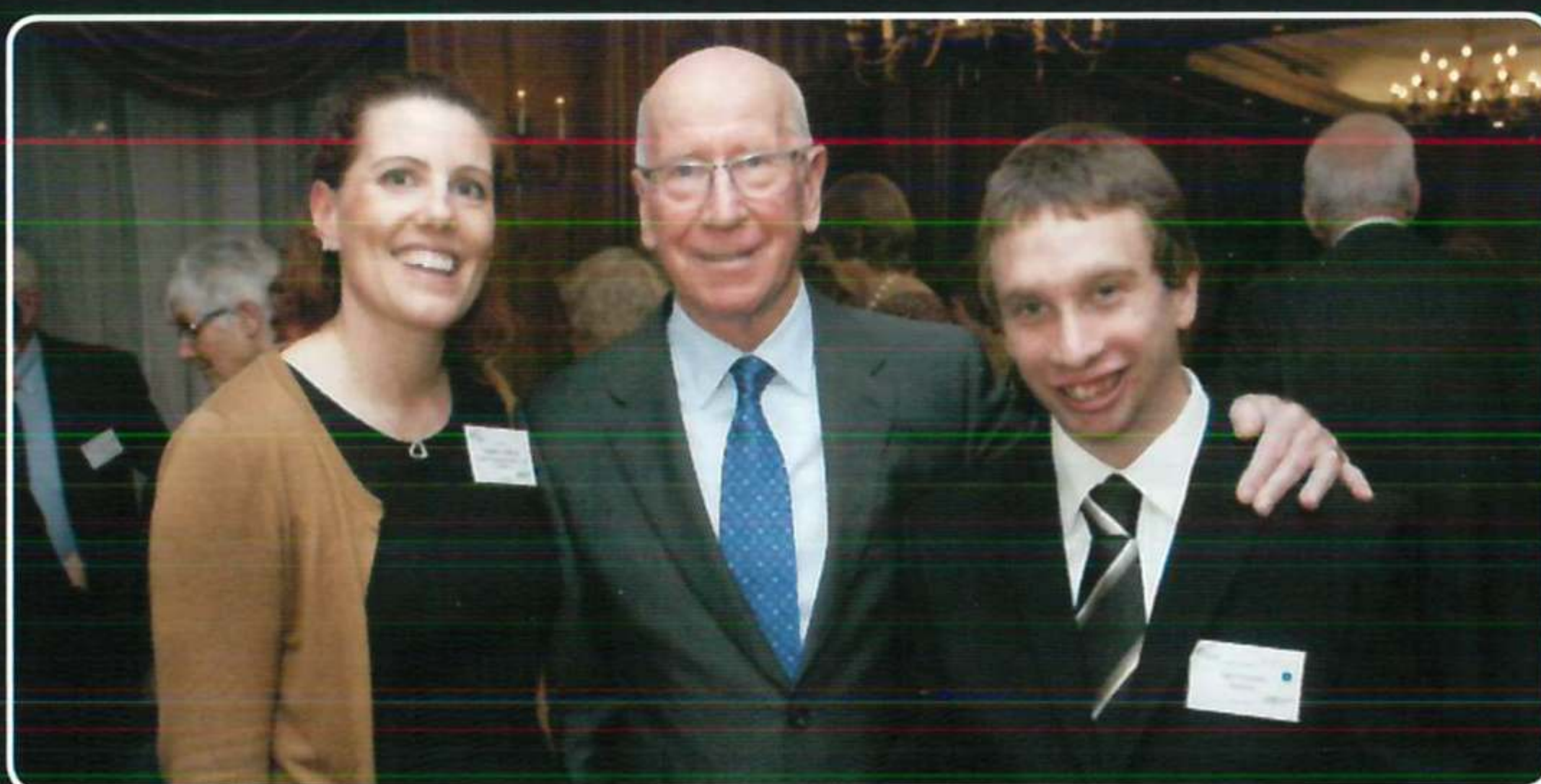
Ian also is a committed member of the Fulham FC Foundation Youth Forum, making valued contributions to shaping and developing youth projects run by the Foundation.

Ian joined the volunteer project as a shy young person, nervous about public speaking and interacting with others. He has overcome these inhibitions with confidence and is now a fantastic role model to the participants on the activities they volunteer for.

"I had a great night," enthused Ian. "It was wonderful to meet Sir Bobby Charlton. It was the best time of my life, so a big thanks to Fulham FC Foundation for their support."

If you would like further information on the Fulham FC Community Champions volunteer project, please get in touch using the details at the bottom of this page.

For more information on the Torch Trophy Trust awards, please visit www.torchtrophytrust.org



the foundation LOTTERY

Last week's lucky numbers were:



We are pleased to confirm that Luis Nedio successfully matched 3 numbers winning £20! We had no jackpot winner meaning next week's jackpot will increase to £800!

Join and play your part in improving lives through sport.

How to join?

Simply fill in the application form available around the stadium and pop it in the post using the prepaid postal address. Or visit fulhamfc.com/lottery

How does it work?

The Foundation Lottery draw is made every Wednesday. For just £2 a week, select four numbers from 1 to 31, and if they match the randomly selected winning numbers, you could win the £500 weekly prize. Match just three numbers to win £20.

The £500 weekly cash prize increases by £100 each week if it is not won to a maximum jackpot of £5,000! Once this total is reached a winner will be guaranteed. You only need to select your numbers once as they are entered into each weekly draw for as long as you are a member.

Where does my £2 go?

The Foundation Lottery is a great way to support the work of Fulham FC Foundation. The charitable arm of Fulham FC delivers inspirational initiatives which have a positive influence on the communities which they serve. Your money will go towards helping the Foundation support all corners of the community.

Good luck!



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE PROGRAMMES OR INITIATIVES, PLEASE VISIT FULHAMFC.COM/FOUNDATION OR CONTACT FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB FOUNDATION ON FOUNDATIONINFO@FULHAMFC.COM OR 0870 442 5432.



YOUNG WHITES PROGRESS IN YOUTH CUP

Fulham's FA Youth Cup campaign opened in positive fashion on Tuesday night as a Ronny Minkwitz double and an Omri Altman penalty capped an entertaining, yet hard-fought victory over Carlisle United.

The Whites entered the game having lost four of their last five fixtures and, having warned his side of complacency ahead of kick-off, Under-18s Manager Kit Symons will have been left delighted by his players' response.

In charge of an undoubtedly talented group, Symons holds high hopes for the competition and will be looking to better last season's achievement of reaching the Fifth Round.

Opponents Carlisle had impressed en route to this encounter, bettering their 2010/11 run, in which they reached the Second Round, by knocking out both Sheffield Wednesday and Kidderminster Harriers.

After both teams started brightly it was the home side that registered the first real chance of the night

when Charles Banya and Omri Altman combined to find Cauley Woodrow on the edge of the box, the striker drawing a fine, low save from Jordan Parker.

A similarly impressive stop came at the other end moments later, when Grant Smith did well to tip Lance McGlan's strike from the angle to safety, while David Symington struck the foot of the post as Carlisle pushed Fulham back.

The Whites responded positively, with Woodrow heading over from Lyle Della Verde's teasing delivery and Mahrez Bettache firing a decent opportunity wide.

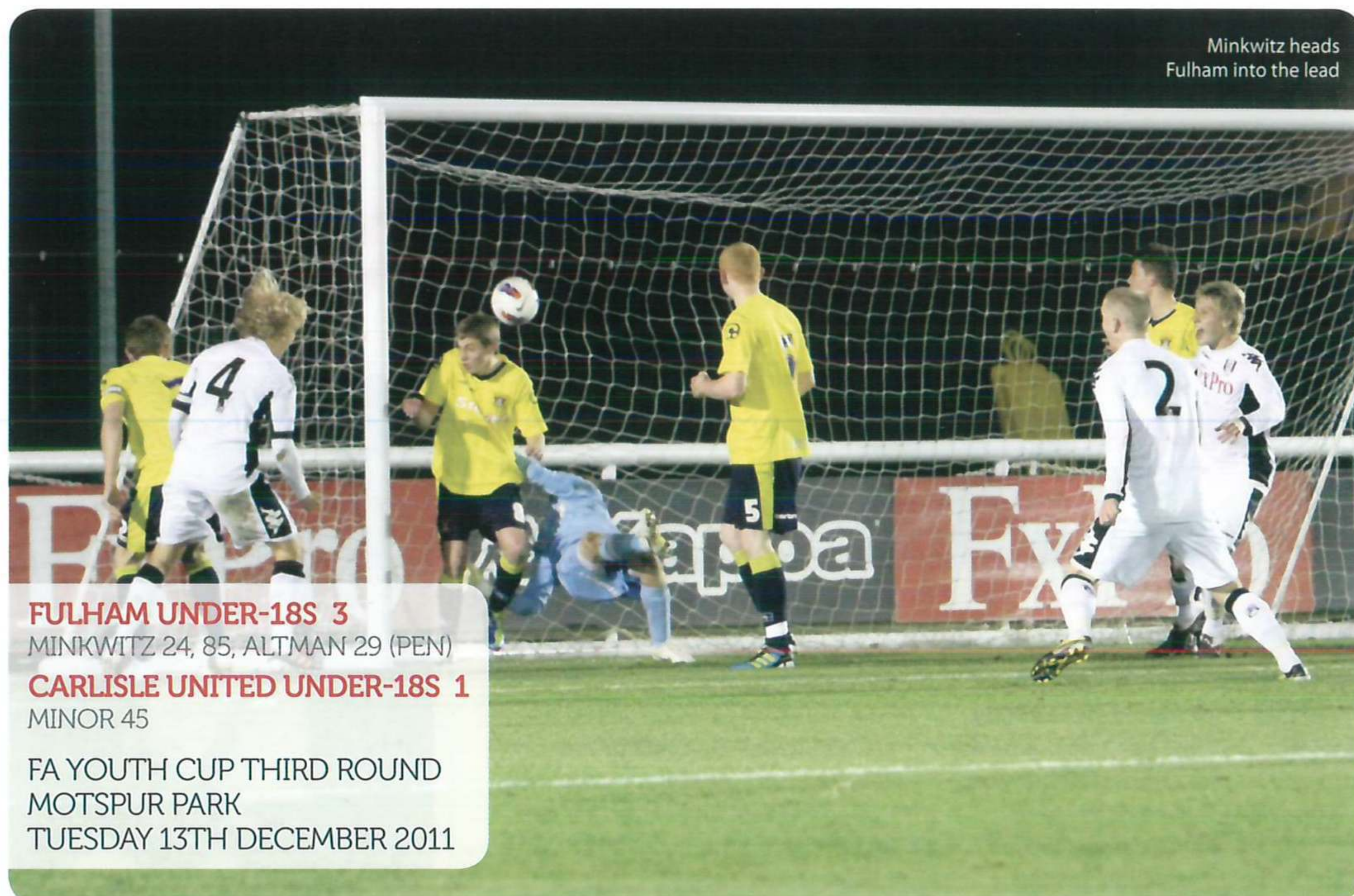
Della Verde then played a lovely pass into Altman's stride but, with the goal in sight, the Israeli forward drew another fine stop from Parker.

However Fulham went in front from the resulting corner as Della Verde floated in a deep delivery on to the head of Ronny Minkwitz, who powered home with conviction on 24 minutes.

Mahrez Bettache



Minkwitz heads
Fulham into the lead



FULHAM UNDER-18S 3

MINKWITZ 24, 85, ALTMAN 29 (PEN)

CARLISLE UNITED UNDER-18S 1

MINOR 45

FA YOUTH CUP THIRD ROUND

MOTSPUR PARK

TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2011

Five minutes later Fulham had a second after Brad Staunch tripped Altman in the box; Fulham's talented number 10 stepped up and despatched a cool finish to send Parker in the opposite direction.

Despite the home side's two-goal advantage, Carlisle continued to press, and their endeavour was rewarded on the stroke of half-time when Dale Minor's shot from the left found its way beyond Smith and into the Fulham net.

Symons' side opened the second-half on the front foot with Altman firing wide and Della Verde forcing Parker into a brave low stop.

But again the visitors hit back, with Mark Beek forcing Smith into action, while Symington was denied a clear strike at goal by a brilliant last-ditch tackle by Josh Passley.

As the game opened up, Symington had a good chance to draw level, and at the other end Bettache and Altman both had close-range efforts bravely blocked.

With 15 minutes left, the game remained finely balanced as Fulham looked for the comfort of a third, and Carlisle searched for an all-

important leveller.

And that goal almost fell to the visitors when Beek rose above Daniel O'Reilly, only to see his downward header superbly held by a grateful Smith.

At the other end the impressive Parker made an incredible double save to keep out Muamer Tankovic and then Banya as the game flowed back in Fulham's favour.

And with that momentum, Fulham grabbed the third goal, Minkwitz

lashing home with five minutes remaining following a clever move involving Tankovic and Banya to secure a fine win.

Fulham Under-18s: Smith; Brister, Passley, O'Reilly, Kavanagh (Richards 88); Minkwitz, Bettache, Della Verde (Tankovic 75), Banya; Altman, Woodrow (Tieku 85).

Carlisle United-U18s: Parker; McGlan, Staunch, Morse, Minor; Todd, Symington, Lynce (Gwinnott 68), Brough (Clarey 70); Potts (Jones 90), Beek.



THROUGH THE RANKS

DEFENDER TOM RICHARDS



AGE: 17
TIME AT CLUB: 9 MONTHS
HEIGHT: 170CM
WEIGHT: 60KG



He may have only been with the Fulham Academy a short while, but already

Tom Richards has become one of the Under-18s' most important players.

The young left-back has given Kit Symons' side a much-needed balance to its back-line, as the 17-year-old has impressed with his commitment to the cause and ability to get forward. In fact, Richards has been a regular source of assists – his crosses from the flank consistently creating chances for those up front.

Shortly after his arrival at the Club, Richards played an instrumental role in the Under-18s' league title success, and nine months on he continues to play his part. Although a somewhat late developer,

Richards appears to be making up for lost time.

I would describe myself as an attacking full-back. I'm quick, with a good left foot and I like to make an impact at both ends of the pitch. I like to make tackles, but at the same time I also like to take on the opposing right-back and get crosses into the box.

I think my approach on the field comes from my days as a winger – the position I played in until last season. I had always played further up the pitch, but towards the end of last season I was pushed back. It's taken a little while to get used to, but I've really enjoyed the challenge.

I'm the first to admit that the defensive side of the game doesn't come

too naturally to me, but I've worked hard to improve. To be honest, my main responsibilities have always been in attack so it's been a big adjustment. I've been doing a lot of extra sessions though and feel I have improved my heading, one v ones and my positioning.

Last season I was an Under-16 player, but moved up to the Under-18s towards the end of the campaign. It was a great experience and to be

"TOM CAME LATE INTO THE ACADEMY SYSTEM AND SHOWS JUST WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED IF YOU GRASP YOUR CHANCE WHEN IT COMES, EARNING HIMSELF A SCHOLARSHIP. HIS PERFORMANCES DEMONSTRATE TREMENDOUS ENERGY AND DRIVE, COUPLED WITH AN EXCELLENT ATTITUDE AND MENTALITY." KIT SYMONS

part of the side that won the league title was something I will never forget. It all happened very quickly and I like to think that the step up was a smooth one.

I actually only joined the Club last April, and had been playing Sunday League football up until that point. A Club scout had seen me play for Guildford Saints and I was then invited down for a six-week trial. That went well and suddenly I found myself lining up for Fulham – which was amazing.

Most of my team-mates have been at professional clubs for years, so it has been difficult in many ways. Most players my age had already been picked up by clubs, so it's not something you see too often. I had just half a year to prove that I was deserving of a scholarship, but I did, and that was very pleasing. It showed that I am on the right track and now I'm determined to show what I can do further.

I've played in almost every game for the Under-18s this season, so I like to think that I have become an important player. I'm pleased with how things are going so far, both for myself and for the team. Personally, I feel I have played well, but I know I need to keep that going.

As a team we have a lot of hope for the rest of the season, and we would all like to finish in top spot again come the end. I think we have the potential to do very well and already this season we have shown that we are one of the best sides around. Personally, I just want to learn as much as possible and become the best player that I can be. Like the rest of my team-mates, a professional contract is something that I want and hopefully I can make that happen.

There are so many players that we can learn from here, but the senior player that I most look up to is Damien Duff. When I was a winger

and taking defenders on people used to call me 'Duffer'. He has the attributes that I try and learn and develop in myself; he's quick, skilful, hard-working and very professional. He's a very traditional winger and there aren't too many like him now.

An often surprising fact about myself is that I have 11 siblings – that's a whole football team of Richards's. I have six sisters and five brothers, so we're a big family. One of my brothers, Joe, has been on trial with Southampton so hopefully he can follow a similar path to me. It would be nice if we could both break into the game together.



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BARCLAYS
PREMIER LEAGUE



Simon Davies



FULHAM DS 3
WEST BROM RESERVES 0
BARCLAYS PREMIER RESERVE
LEAGUE SOUTH
MOTSPUR PARK
TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2011

Kerim Frei



Orlando Sá completes the scoring

DAVIES RETURN INSPIRES DS VICTORY

Simon Davies made his initial return to action earlier this month as Fulham's Development Squad recorded a comfortable 3-0 victory over in-form West Bromwich Albion Reserves.

The 32-year-old last featured when Fulham opened their UEFA Europa League campaign in June, but impressed in his first outing since injuring his ankle, playing 70 minutes in a central midfield role.

Despite a positive start from the visitors, Billy McKinlay's side quickly stamped their authority on proceedings with Kerim Frei creating the first of the game's chances for Orlando Sá, but unfortunately the striker failed to find the target.

Alex Smith then went close following clever play from Matthew Briggs and Pajtim Kasami, before the latter also

tested West Brom 'keeper Jack Rose.

However, the Whites did make the breakthrough on 20 minutes when Bjørn Helge Riise delivered invitingly from the right. Frei's initial header was cleared off the line, and Alex Kacaniklic also saw his subsequent rebound kept out. Fortunately though, the ball eventually found its way back to Frei who made little mistake with a simple finish.

Fulham dominated the second-half too, with Kasami going close to goal number two within moments of the restart. Davies was also at the heart of the action and almost found Frei for his second of the game.

The visitors did hit back briefly, and the Whites needed the impressive Dan Burn to take centre stage at the back, the 19-year-old making two key interventions.

However, West Brom's fortunes proved short-lived as Kasami made it 2-0 on 75 minutes when firing home a sweetly-struck free-kick after Kacaniklic was brought down on the edge of the visitors' box.

Two became three moments later when Kasami combined with Sá, and the Portuguese striker's composed strike added the finishing touch to another exciting move on the break.

Fulham DS: Etheridge; Smith, Pritchard (Harris 19), Burn, Briggs (Dean 79); BH Riise, Frei, Davies (Donegan 70), Kasami, Kacaniklic; Sá. (Subs not used): Joronen, Brister.

West Brom Reserves: Rose; Gayle, O'Neil, Tunnicliffe, Atkinson (Nabi 45); O'Sullivan, (Goldsmith 75), Manton, Birch, Rooft; Elford-Alliyu, Sawyers. (Subs not used): Lewis, Jones, Turton.



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SHARP SHOOTERS

Player	Team	Lge	Cup	Ttl
Robin van Persie	Arsenal	15	4	19
Wayne Rooney	Man Utd	11	3	14
Sergio Aguero	Man City	11	2	13
Edin Dzeko	Man City	10	2	12
Mario Balotelli	Man City	8	3	11
Demba Ba	Newcastle	11	0	11
Andrew Johnson	Fulham	3	8	11
Ayegbeni Yakubu	Blackburn	9	1	10
Emmanuel Adebayor	Tottenham	8	0	8

WHERE TO SEE GOALS (BY GROUND)

Ground	Home Team	M	Gls	G/Mt
Old Trafford	Man Utd	8	34	4.25
Stamford Bridge	Chelsea	8	33	4.12
City of Manchestr Stad	Man City	7	28	4.00
Reebok Stadium	Bolton	8	31	3.88
White Hart Lane	Tottenham	6	22	3.67
Ewood Park	Blackburn	7	25	3.57
Carrow Road	Norwich	8	28	3.50
The JJB Stadium	Wigan	7	23	3.29
Molineux Stadium	Wolves	7	21	3.00
Craven Cottage	Fulham	7	21	3.00
Stadium of Light	Sunderland	8	22	2.75
Britannia Stadium	Stoke	8	21	2.62
Sports Direct Arena	Newcastle	7	18	2.57
Villa Park	Aston Villa	7	17	2.43
Emirates Stadium	Arsenal	8	19	2.38
Loftus Road Stadium	QPR	7	16	2.29
Goodison Park	Everton	7	16	2.29
The Hawthorns	West Brom	8	18	2.25
Anfield	Liverpool	8	16	2.00
Liberty Stadium	Swansea	8	12	1.50

TEAM LEADERS

Team with the most..

shots on target 154 Tottenham. **shots off target** 109 Liverpool. **corners** 131 Liverpool. **hit woodwork** 9 Liverpool. **offsides** 53 West Brom. **fouls** 188 Wigan. **yellow cards** 39 Chelsea. **red cards** 5 Bolton.

PLAYER POWER

Player with the most..

Shots 66 Robin van Persie (Arsenal). **Shots on target** 40 Wayne Rooney (Man Utd). **Shots off target** 28 Luis Suarez (Liverpool). **Assists** 9 David Silva (Man City). **Crosses** 62 Luis Nani (Man Utd). **Offsides** 25 Darren Bent (Aston Villa). **Fouls** 34 Marouane Fellaini (Everton). **Free-kicks won** 33 Jonas Gutierrez (Newcastle).

PRESS ASSOCIATION Sport

GOAL COUNTER

441

RIGHT FOOT

218 goals



49.4%

LEFT FOOT

125 goals



28.3%

HEADERS

79 goals



17.9%

Own goals 15 (3.4%), Other body part 4 (0.4%)

QUICK-FIRE GOALS

From the start of a match

Robin van Persie (Arsenal vs Sunderland) 0:26

By a substitute after coming on

Apostolos Vellios (Chelsea vs Everton) 0:46

DISCIPLINARY



3.5 cards per match



0.2 cards per match

QUICK-FIRE CARDS

From the start of a match

David Fox (Wigan vs Norwich) 0:49

By a substitute after coming on

Damien Duff (Wigan vs Fulham) 1:04

SUB TOTALS

Subs used.....798

Offsides.....666

Corners.....1633

Shots Off Target1664

BEAT THE TRAFFIC

Total number of goals you would have missed by leaving every match ten minutes early

0 7 9

2011/12 SEASON

BARCLAYS
PREMIER LEAGUE

RESULTS

How many times each result has occurred this season - home sides score shown first

0-0	11
0-1	10
0-2	7
0-3	2
0-4	3
0-5	1
1-0	8
1-1	14
1-2	13
1-3	5
1-4	-
1-5	2
1-6	1
2-0	10
2-1	14
2-2	6
2-3	3
2-4	-
2-5	-
3-0	7
3-1	15
3-2	1
3-3	2
3-4	-
3-5	1
4-0	3
4-1	3
4-2	2
4-3	1
4-4	-
4-5	-
5-0	1
5-1	1
5-2	-
5-3	-
5-4	-
5-5	-
6-0	1
8-2	1

In the Barclays Premier League this season there have been 2269 shots on target, goals constitute 19.4% of all shots (doesn't include own goals). The woodwork has come to the rescue of the defending side on 79 occasions (the biggest beneficiaries being Swansea 9). There have been 50 penalties awarded this season and of those 32 have been scored (a success rate of 64.0%). Wigan have been awarded most penalties - 5. West Brom have given most penalties away 6. The team to score the most penalties is Swansea 3. Blackburn missed 2 penalties in the Barclays Premier League this season.

*up to and including 12/12/2011

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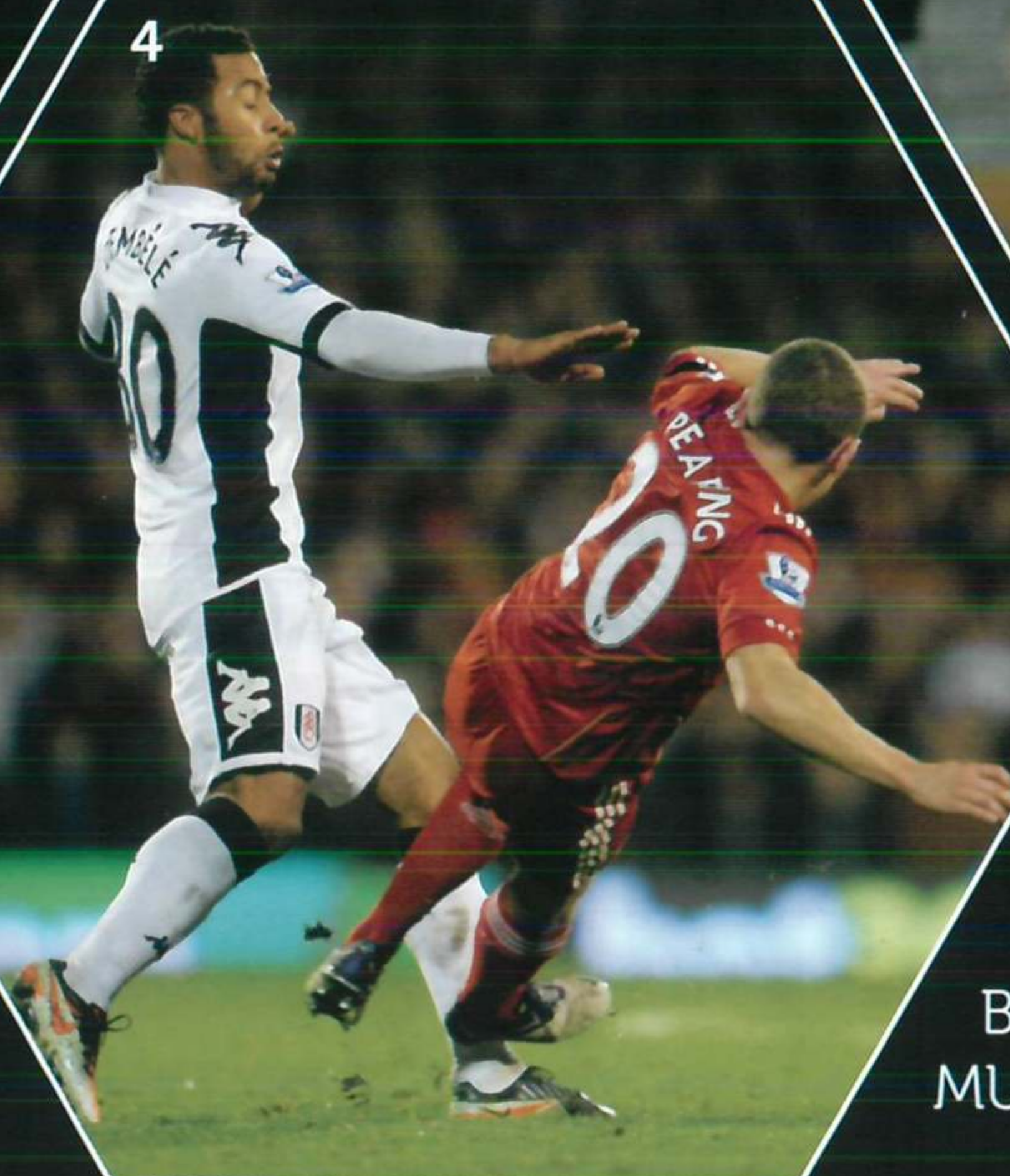
1



2



3



4

5



1. Martin Jol shares his delight with John Arne Riise at the final whistle

2. Danny makes his feelings clear to Luis Suárez

3. Mousa holds off challenges from Spearing and Bellamy

4. Spearing commits his red card foul

5. Clint celebrates his winner

JOL'S VERDICT

"TONIGHT WE PROBABLY HAD THE RUB OF THE GREEN... BUT THIS WAS A MUCH-NEEDED WIN."

Fulham 1 Liverpool 0

Dempsey 85

Clint Dempsey's 85th-minute strike settled this pulsating encounter and handed Fulham an impressive victory.

The American international scored the only goal of the game, tucking in from a rebound after Jose Reina spilled Danny Murphy's shot.

Liverpool may have been a man down after Jay Spearing saw red for an uncontrolled tackle on Mousa Dembélé in the 72nd minute, but few could argue with the outcome.

Reina saved well from Dembélé early on following good play from Bryan Ruiz, and Mark Schwarzer also did well to keep out Andy Carroll's 10-yard snapshot. Dembélé tested Reina again on 17 minutes, before Jordan Henderson lashed a strike against the post on the half hour mark.

Luis Suárez perhaps should have put Liverpool in front moments later, but it was Martin Jol's side that finished the half on top as Dempsey twice went close to breaking the deadlock.

After the interval, Liverpool piled on the pressure once more, with Jose Enrique firing in an ambitious 30-yard volley that Schwarzer was more than a match for. Craig Bellamy also

dragged a shot wide, and Suárez had a goal disallowed for offside.

The game swung back in Fulham's favour though when Spearing was shown a straight red, playing the ball first but following through on the impressive Dembélé.

Liverpool had dominated in patches, but the Whites looked resilient throughout, not to mention slick on the break – with one such move seeing Reina make another smart save to thwart Dembélé again, before Dempsey crashed a vicious strike against the bar.

However, moments later Dempsey did make the difference as Danny Murphy beat Glen Johnson on the edge of the box and, when Reina spilled the Fulham Captain's strike, the American pounced with a simple but deadly close-range finish.

FULHAM: Schwarzer; Kelly, Hangeland, Senderos, JA Riise; Ruiz, Murphy (Gecov 94), Etuhu, Dempsey, Dembélé, Zamora (Johnson 71)

LIVERPOOL: Reina; Johnson, Agger, Skrtel, Jose Enrique; Henderson, Spearing, Adam; Bellamy (Downing 77), Suárez, Carroll (Kuyt 77)

MATCH STATS: FULHAM/LIVERPOOL

20 SHOTS 17

14 ON TARGET 9

2 CORNERS 10

12 FOULS 9

45% POSSESSION 55%

CLASH OF THE DAY: BREDE HANGELAND V LUIS SUÁREZ

The Uruguayan may have shown flashes of his undoubted talent, but this was Hangeland's night as the Norwegian defender stood as an immovable barrier for the Reds' attack. Hangeland was seemingly a step ahead of his opponent all night, with a frustrated Suárez spending the majority of his time on the deck. The Liverpool man may have enjoyed his previous visit to the Cottage, but Hangeland made this one a night to forget.



MAN OF THE MATCH: DANNY MURPHY



The Fulham skipper enjoyed a memorable night against his boyhood club, impressing in the heart of the Whites' midfield. Murphy moved the ball with

ease and continually prompted and probed passes that caused the visitors no end of problems. Determined in the tackle too, the 34-year-old rolled back the years to remind his former club of the skill and composure that made him an Anfield hit.



1. Brede illustrates the mood at the end of 90 minutes

2. The returning Simon Davies tackles Mark Gower

3. John Arne Riise battles with Wayne Routledge

4. The impressive Michel Vorm denies AJ

JOL'S VERDICT

"WE LIVENED UP AND COULD HAVE SCORED A COUPLE OF GOALS. BUT IT WASN'T TO BE."

Swansea City ----- 2

Fulham ----- 0

Sinclair 56, Graham 90+1

S econd-half goals from Scott Sinclair and Danny Graham handed Swansea three points on an afternoon to forget for Fulham.

Fulham travelled to South Wales in positive mood after the rousing defeat of Liverpool, looking to extend an unbeaten run of three league games. But football has a horrible habit of bringing you back down to earth quickly.

After the frantic pace of that clash with the Reds, proceedings took a little while to get going at the Liberty Stadium – where the hosts had lost just once all season.

Fulham pressed in spells, but found the Swans' defence at its resilient best (seven clean sheets in total).

Half-chances fell for both sides, but neither found a breakthrough before half-time.

However, the home side started the second period with more purpose with Leroy Lita, Wayne Routledge, Luke Moore and Scott Sinclair all going close.

In fact, it was the latter, Sinclair, that ultimately made the difference when his shot on the turn deflected wickedly off Clint Dempsey and wrongfooted Mark Schwarzer.

Martin Jol's side did hit back, with Dempsey finding Bryan Ruiz, but the Costa Rican was denied by Michel Vorm's outstretched leg. Andrew Johnson and John Arne Riise both went close too, but at the other end Kemy Agustien hit the post.

Kerim Frei then replaced Mousa Dembélé to make his Premier League debut and eight minutes later the young Swiss forward weaved Fulham a lifeline when his teasing run was halted by a trip from Jazz Richards in the box.

Dempsey stepped up in an attempt to make amends for his part in the earlier goal, but saw his spot-kick saved superbly by Vorm who made a fine stop to his right.

With that went the Whites' last chance of snatching a point, as Swansea doubled their lead moments later, Danny Graham stretching ahead of Brede Hangeland to poke the ball home.

SWANSEA CITY: Vorm  Richards, Caulker, Williams, Taylor; Routledge (Dyer 88), Gower, Britton, Sinclair  Moore (Agustien 68), Lita (Graham 75 )

FULHAM: Schwarzer; Kelly, Hangeland, Senderos , JA Riise; Ruiz, Davies (Sá 78), Etuhu, Dempsey; Johnson, Dembélé (Frei 76)

MATCH STATS: SWANSEA/FULHAM

16	SHOTS	12
----	-------	----

8	ON TARGET	7
---	-----------	---

6	CORNERS	5
---	---------	---

8	FOULS	7
---	-------	---

55%	POSSESSION	45%
-----	------------	-----

CLASH OF THE DAY: MICHEL VORM V CLINT DEMPSEY

The impressive Dutch stopper is enjoying a fine debut season at the Liberty Stadium and, unfortunately for Fulham, that form continued on our visit. Vorm made his second penalty save of the season to keep out Dempsey in the 87th minute following earlier saves to keep out both Bryan Ruiz and Andrew Johnson.



MAN OF THE MATCH: DICKSON ETUHU



On what was a largely difficult afternoon for the Whites, Etuhu was certainly Fulham's most impressive performer with a solid display in the middle of midfield. The 29-year-old won a number of important

tackles and limited the impact of Swansea's key man Mark Gower.

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FULHAM FC

SQUAD 2011/12

CHRIS BAIRD | D

Born: 25.02.82,
Rasharkin, NI
Height: 181cm
Weight: 74kg

Previous Clubs: Southampton,
Walsall (loan), Watford (loan)
FFC Debut: v Arsenal (A) 12.08.07

MATTHEW BRIGGS | D

Born: 06.03.91,
Wandsworth, ENG
Height: 188cm
Weight: 83kg

Previous Clubs: Leyton Orient (loan)
FFC Debut: v Middlesbrough (A)
13.05.07

SIMON DAVIES | M

Born: 23.10.79,
Haverfordwest, WAL
Height: 178cm
Weight: 76kg

Previous Clubs: Peterborough,
Tottenham, Everton
FFC Debut: v Stoke (H) 27.01.07

MOUSA DEMBÉLÉ | F

Born: 16.07.87,
Wilrijk, BEL
Height: 185cm
Weight: 82kg

Previous Clubs:
Germinal Beerschot, Willem II, AZ
FFC Debut: v Manchester United
(H) 22.08.10

CLINT DEMPSEY | M

Born: 09.03.83,
Texas, USA
Height: 187cm
Weight: 84kg

Previous Clubs: Furman University,
New England Revolution
FFC Debut:
v Tottenham (H) 20.01.07

DAMIEN DUFF | M

Born: 02.03.79,
Ballyboden, IRL
Height: 177cm
Weight: 75kg

Previous Clubs: Blackburn Rovers,
Chelsea, Newcastle United.
FFC Debut:
v Amkar Perm (H) 20.08.09

NEIL ETHERIDGE | GK

Born: 07.02.90,
Enfield, ENG
Height: 188cm
Weight: 90kg

Previous Clubs: Charlton (loan)
FFC Debut: v Odense BK (H)
15.12.11

DICKSON ETUHU | M

Born: 08.06.82,
Kano, NIG
Height: 189cm
Weight: 89kg

Previous Clubs: Man City, Preston
NE, Norwich, Sunderland
FFC Debut:
v Middlesbrough (H) 20.12.08

KERIM FREI | M

Born: 19.11.93,
Fledkirch, AUT
Height: 171cm
Weight: 66kg

Previous Clubs: N/A
FFC Debut: v NSÍ Runavík (A)
07.07.11

MARCEL GECOV | M

Born: 01.01.88,
Prague, CZE
Height: 182cm
Weight: 77kg

Previous Clubs: Slavia Prague, SK
Kladno (loan), Slovan Liberec
FFC Debut: v Chelsea (A) 21.09.11

ZDENEK GRYGERA | D

Born: 14.05.80,
Přílepy, CZE
Height: 184cm
Weight: 80kg

Previous Clubs: FK Svit Zlín, Petra
Drnovice, Sparta Prague, Ajax,
Juventus
FFC Debut: v FC Twente (H)
15.09.11

BREDE HANGELAND | D

Born: 20.06.81,
Texas, USA
Height: 199cm
Weight: 91kg

Previous Clubs: Viking FK,
FC Copenhagen
FFC Debut: v Bolton (A) 29.01.08

AARON HUGHES | D

Born: 08.11.79,
Magherafelt, NI
Height: 183cm
Weight: 78kg

Previous Clubs: Newcastle,
Aston Villa
FFC Debut:
v Wigan (A) 15.09.07

ANDREW JOHNSON | F

Born: 10.02.81,
Bedford, ENG
Height: 172cm
Weight: 67kg

Previous Clubs: Birmingham,
Crystal Palace, Everton
FFC Debut:
v Bolton (H) 13.09.08

PAJTIM KASAMI | M

Born: 02.06.92, Struga,
MKD
Height: 187cm
Weight: TBC

Previous Clubs: Winterthur,
Grashopper, Liverpool (loan),
Lazio, Bellinzona, Palermo
FFC Debut: v RNK Split (A) 28.07.11

STEPHEN KELLY | D

Born: 06.09.83,
Dublin, IRL
Height: 184cm
Weight: 82kg

Previous Clubs: Tottenham
Hotspur, Southend (loan),
QPR (loan), Watford (loan),
Birmingham City, Stoke City (loan)
FFC Debut: v FK Vetrá (H) 06.08.09

DANNY MURPHY | M

Born: 18.03.77,
Chester, ENG
Height: 177cm
Weight: 79kg

Previous Clubs: Crewe, Liverpool,
Charlton, Tottenham
FFC Debut: v Wigan (A) 15.09.07

BJØRN HELGE RIISE | M

Born: 21.06.83,
Ålesund, NOR
Height: 173cm
Weight: 73kg

Previous Clubs: Aalesunds, Viking
(on loan), Standard Liège, Brussels
(loan), Lillestrøm, Sheff Utd (loan)
FFC Debut: v FK Vetrá (A) 30.07.09

JOHN ARNE RIISE | D

Born: 24.09.80,
Ålesund, NOR
Height: 188cm
Weight: 82kg

Previous Clubs: Aalesunds,
Monaco, Liverpool, Roma
FFC Debut: v Crusaders (H)
21.07.11

BRYAN RUIZ | F

Born: 18.08.85,
Alajuela, CR
Height: 188cm
Weight: 79kg

Previous Clubs: Alajuelense, KAA
Gent, FC Twente
FFC Debut: v Blackburn (H)
11.09.11

ORLANDO SÁ | F

Born: 26.5.88,
Barcelos, PT
Height: 186cm
Weight: 89kg

Previous Clubs: Braga, Maria Fonte
(loan), Porto, Nacional (loan)
FFC Debut: v Chelsea (A) 21.09.11

MARK SCHWARZER | GK

Born: 06.10.72,
Sydney, AUS
Height: 195cm
Weight: 95kg

Previous Clubs: Marconi Stallions,
Dynamo Dresden, Kaiserslautern,
Bradford City, Middlesbrough
FFC Debut: v Hull City (A) 16.08.08

PHILIPPE SENDEROS | D

Born: 14.02.85, Geneva,
SWI
Height: 188cm
Weight: 82kg

Previous Clubs: Servette, Arsenal,
Milan (loan), Everton (loan)
FFC Debut: v Sunderland (A)
30.04.11

STEVE SIDWELL | M

Born: 14.12.82,
Wandsworth, ENG
Height: 183cm
Weight: 80kg

Previous Clubs: Arsenal, Brentford
(loan), Beveren (loan), Brighton
(loan), Reading, Chelsea, Aston Villa
FFC Debut: v Stoke City (H) 22.01.11

CSABA SOMOGYI | GK

Born: 07.04.85,
Dunaújváros, HUN
Height: 190cm
Weight: 80kg

Previous Clubs: Gyori ETO, Integrál-
DAC, Hévíz, Rákospalotai EAC
FFC Debut: N/A

DAVID STOCKDALE | GK

Born: 20.09.85,
Leeds, ENG
Height: 188cm
Weight: 97kg

Previous Clubs: York, Darlington,
Rotherham (loan), Leicester (loan),
Plymouth Argyle (loan)
FFC Debut: v Everton (H) 13.09.09

BOBBY ZAMORA | F

Born: 16.01.81,
London, ENG
Height: 187cm
Weight: 85kg

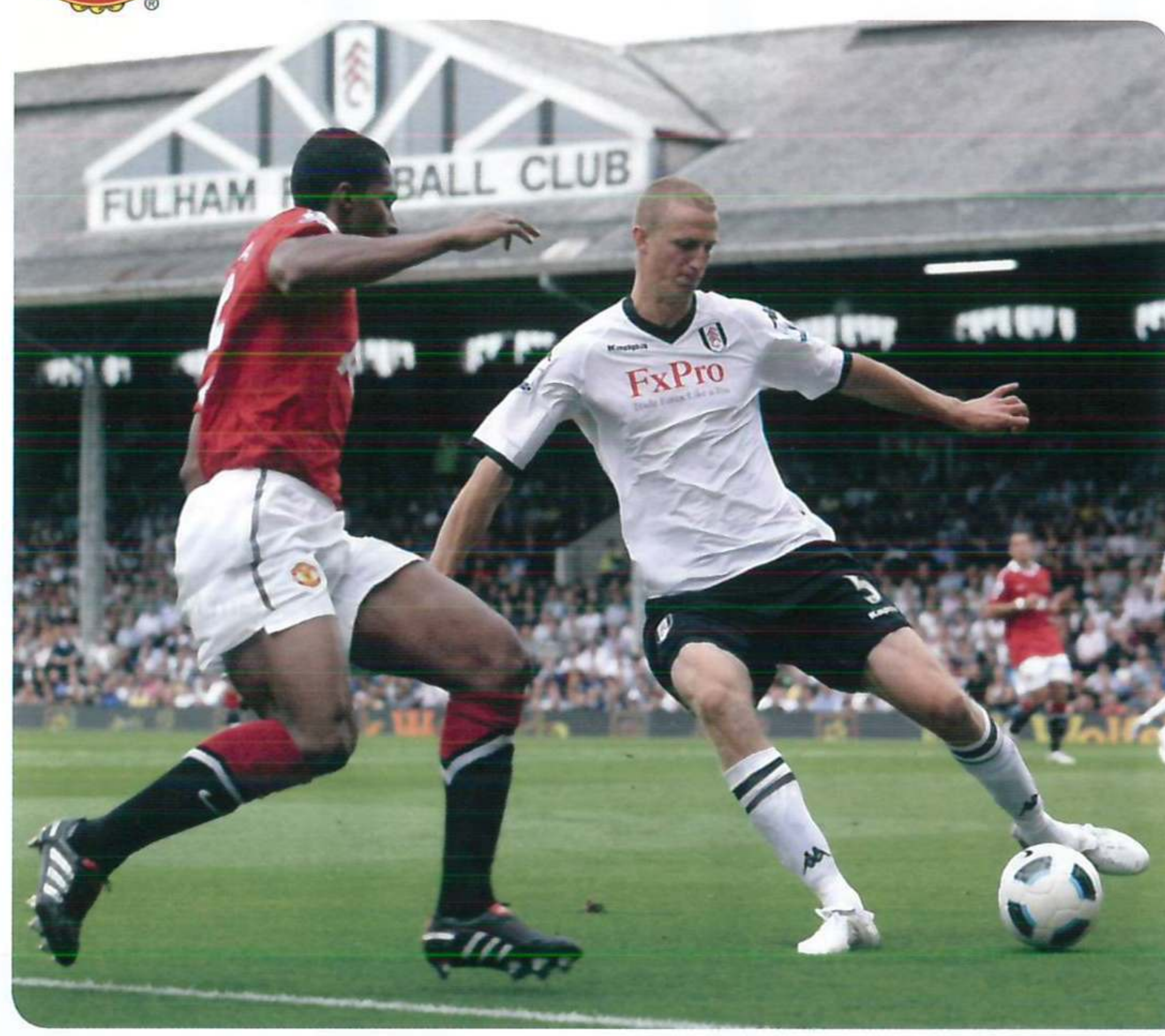
Previous Clubs: Bristol Rovers,
Bath (loan), Brighton, Tottenham,
West Ham
FFC Debut: v Hull City (A) 16.08.08

MANCHESTER UNITED
 FULHAM

NEXT UP: FULHAM V MANCHESTER UNITED



BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE
 WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2011, 8PM



TICKETS

(A Grade) Wednesday 21st
 December 2011, 8pm
SOLD OUT. Seatwave exchange now
 open to Season Ticket Holders &
 Members. **Hospitality available from**
£275 +VAT

 Our home Premier League
 record v Manchester United
 P10 W2 D4 L4 F15 A17

Last time
 Barclays Premier League 22.08.10
 Fulham 2
 (Davies 57, Hangeland 90)
 Manchester United 2
 (Scholes 11, Hangeland og 84)

 Attendance 25,643

The festive fixtures provide a stern test this season as we face London derbies against Chelsea and Arsenal, along with a trip to Norwich. First up, though, are Manchester United, who have not won a Premier League fixture at Craven Cottage since March 2008.

Last season United were the opening visitors to SW6 in an entertaining encounter that finished 2-2 after Brede Hangeland scored at both ends in the final 10 minutes. In between time David Stockdale saved a penalty kick from Nani. Simon Davies had earlier equalised Paul Scholes' opener for the Red Devils.

Sir Alex Ferguson's side started the current campaign in blistering form, following up a nervy 2-1 opening weekend win at West Brom by hammering Tottenham (3-0) and Arsenal (8-2), before smashing five past Bolton without reply. The goal fest continued as Chelsea were sunk 3-1, before Stoke halted the winning charge, holding United to a 1-1 draw at Old Trafford.

In another season such form might have seen United as runaway leaders, but this term they were being matched point-for-point by their 'noisy neighbours' from across town, and City proved their pedigree by winning 6-1

at Old Trafford, United's biggest ever Premier League home defeat. The Red Devils subsequently recovered to gain three successive 1-0 wins, including a fourth away success of the season, at Swansea, thus becoming the first ever Premier League victors in Wales.

Following their record 19th League title last season, United again qualified for the UEFA Champions League, but a defeat in Basel earlier this month caused a shock exit, dropping them into the UEFA Europa League, to their obvious dismay. In contrast, us Fulham fans would be delighted to have that honour.

TICKET OFFICE CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

- 23rd Dec 9am-4pm
- 24th-27th Dec Closed
- 28th-30th Dec 9am-5pm
- 31st Dec 10am-midday
- 1st Jan Closed
- 2nd Jan 11am-kick-off

HALF SEASON PRICES NOW AVAILABLE.

PRICES FROM £269 ADULTS & £69 JUNIORS.
CHECK FULHAMFC.COM FOR DETAILS



HOME GAMES



FULHAM V ARSENAL

(A Grade) Monday 2nd January 2012, 5.30pm

Tickets now on sale to Season Ticket Holders, Members & supporters with a booking history (Max 6). Loyalty points: 1

Prices from £45 for adults and £20 for juniors.

TICKETS FROM
£45



FULHAM V NEWCASTLE UNITED

(B Grade) Saturday 21st January 2012, 3pm

Tickets now on general sale.

Loyalty points: 3

Prices from £30 for adults and £10 for juniors.

TICKETS FROM
£30



FULHAM V WEST BROMWICH ALBION

(C Grade) Wednesday 1st February 2012, 8pm

Tickets now on sale to Season Ticket Holders & Members. On general sale from 20th December (unlimited tickets). Loyalty points: 5

Prices from £15 for adults, £15 for concessions and £5 for juniors.

TICKETS FROM
£15

50% Discount - Limited Number

Fans can purchase tickets in the Putney End with a 50% discount for this match, though availability is limited. A seat in Cottage Corner (P1 & 2) or P3 is now only £15 Adult (normally £30).

Two mates for just £5 each

Season Ticket Holders can purchase two additional tickets for just £5 each in the Hammersmith and Putney Ends. This offer is only valid until 5pm on Monday 9th January (subject to availability).

Fulham Members' Club Ticket Offer

As a special 'thank you' to all of our loyal Fulham Members' Club members, we are offering a £10 and £5 discount on adult and junior match tickets respectively.

This offer is valid in all areas of the stadium (subject to availability, 1 per member) and expires at 5pm on Friday 20th January.



FULHAM V STOKE CITY

(B Grade) Saturday 11th February 2012, 3pm

Tickets now on sale to Season Ticket Holders & Members. On general sale from 20th December (unlimited tickets). Loyalty points: 3

Prices from £30 for adults, £20 for concessions and £10 for juniors.

TICKETS FROM
£30

FA CUP THIRD ROUND

FULHAM V CHARLTON ATHLETIC

Saturday 7th January 2012, 3pm



Tickets now on sale to Season Ticket Holders and Members (unlimited tickets). On sale to supporters with a booking history from 19th December. Loyalty points: 5

Prices from £20 for adults, £10 for concessions, and £1 for juniors.



Adult Season Ticket Holders receive a £5 discount on their match ticket (advance bookings only)

AWAY GAMES



CHELSEA V FULHAM

Monday 26th December 2011, 1pm **SOLD OUT.**

Travel: There is no official travel for this fixture

HOW TO BUY TICKETS

Online or by phone: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week | Fulhamfc.com | 0843 208 1234 | In Person Craven Cottage Ticket Office Open Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm; non-matchday Saturdays 10am to Noon; and matchdays from 9.30am until half-time. On Saturday/Sunday matchdays the Ticket Office will also open after the match.

Reminder: Supporters purchasing Junior and Concession match tickets are reminded to bring proof of age ID on matchdays. Under-12s must be accompanied by an adult.



NORWICH CITY V FULHAM

Saturday 31st December 2011, 3pm

Tickets now on sale to Season Ticket Holders, Members and supporters with a booking history (Max 6). Loyalty points: 3

Adults £45, Over-65s £35, Under-16s £25, Under-12s £15

Travel: Coaches depart from Motspur Park at 10am, Craven Cottage at 10.30am. Season Ticket Holder Adults £17, Juniors £12. Non Season Ticket Holder Adults £22, Juniors £17

*Ticket information is subject to change

RESULTS

DATE	OPPOSITION	H/A	COMP	KO/SCORE	ATT	STARTING XI											
June 2011																	
Thu 30	NSÍ Runavik	H	Europa League Q1 L1	W 3-0	14,910	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Hughes	Briggs	Duff ¹	Etuhu	Murphy ¹	Davies	Johnson		
July 2011																	
Thu 07	NSÍ Runavik	A	Europa League Q1 L2	D 0-0	1,245	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Senderos	Briggs	Duff	Etuhu	Sidwell	Greening	Johnson		
Thu 14	Crusaders FC	A	Europa League Q2 L1	W 1-3	3,011	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Hughes	Briggs ¹	Duff	Etuhu	Murphy ¹	Frei	Johnson		
Thu 21	Crusaders FC	H	Europa League Q2 L2	W 4-0	15,676	Schwarzer	Hughes	Hangeland	Senderos	Briggs	Duff ¹	Sidwell ¹	Murphy	J.A. Riise	Johnson		
Thu 28	RNK Split	A	Europa League Q3 L1	D 0-0	3,987	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Hughes	J.A. Riise	Duff	Etuhu	Murphy	Briggs	Johnson		
August 2011																	
Thu 4	RNK Split	H	Europa League Q3 L2	W 2-0	17,087	Schwarzer	Hughes	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Duff	Etuhu	Murphy ¹	Dempsey	Johnson		
Sat 13	Aston Villa	H	Premier League	D 0-0	25,700	Schwarzer	Hughes	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Duff	Etuhu	Murphy	Dempsey	Johnson		
Thu 18	Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk	H	Europa League P0 L1	W 3-0	14,823	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Hughes ¹	Briggs	Kasami	Sidwell	Murphy	Duff	Dempsey		
Sun 21	Wolverhampton Wanderers	A	Premier League	L 2-0	22,657	Schwarzer	Hughes	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Kasami	Etuhu	Murphy	Duff	Dempsey		
Thu 25	Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk	A	Europa League P0 L2	L 1-0	12,750	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Hughes	J.A. Riise	Duff	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
Sun 28	Newcastle United	A	Premier League	L 2-1	42,685	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Hughes	Briggs	Duff	Sidwell	Murphy	Kasami	Dempsey		
September 2011																	
Sun 11	Blackburn Rovers	H	Premier League	D 1-1	24,856	Schwarzer	Hughes	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Ruiz	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Duff		
Thu 15	FC Twente	H	Europa League	D 1-1	14,110	Schwarzer	Grygera	Hangeland	Baird	Briggs	Kasami	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
Sun 18	Manchester City	H	Premier League	D 2-2	24,750	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Dempsey	Sidwell	Murphy ¹	Duff	Dembélé		
Wed 21	Chelsea	A	Carling Cup R3	L 0-4 3pens	37,672	Schwarzer	Kelly	Grygera	Senderos	Briggs	Kasami	Baird	Gecov	Frei	Ruiz		
Sat 24	West Bromwich Albion	A	Premier League	D 0-0	23,835	Schwarzer	Grygera	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Kasami	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
Thu 29	Odense BK	A	Europa League	W 0-2	6,500	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Senderos	Briggs	Kasami	Etuhu	Murphy	Duff	Dempsey		
October 2011																	
Sun 2	Queens Park Rangers	H	Premier League	W 6-0	23,766	Schwarzer	Grygera	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Dembélé	Sidwell	Murphy ¹	Dempsey ¹	Johnson		
Sat 15	Stoke City	A	Premier League	L 2-0	26,890	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Hughes	J.A. Riise	Dembélé	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Johnson		
Thu 20	Wisla Krakow	A	Europa League	L 1-0	28,800	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Hughes	Briggs	Duff	Etuhu	Gecov	Dembélé	Johnson		
Sun 23	Everton	H	Premier League	L 1-3	25,646	Schwarzer	Grygera	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Dembélé	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Johnson		
Sat 29	Wigan Athletic	A	Premier League	W 0-2	15,796	Schwarzer	Grygera	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Johnson	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
November 2011																	
Thu 3	Wisla Krakow	H	Europa League	W 4-1	20,319	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Duff ¹	Etuhu	Murphy	Dempsey	Johnson		
Sun 6	Tottenham Hotspur	H	Premier League	L 1-3	25,698	Schwarzer	Grygera	Hangeland	Baird	J.A. Riise	Duff	Sidwell	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
Sat 19	Sunderland	A	Premier League	D 0-0	36,766	Schwarzer	Hughes	Hangeland	Senderos	Baird	Duff	Etuhu	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
Sat 26	Arsenal	A	Premier League	D 1-1	60,043	Schwarzer	Baird	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Ruiz	Etuhu	Murphy	Dempsey	Dembélé		
December 2011																	
Thu 1	FC Twente	A	Europa League	L 1-0	25,250	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Hughes	J.A. Riise	Dembélé	Etuhu	Murphy	Duff	Johnson		
Mon 5	Liverpool	H	Premier League	W 1-0	25,688	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Dembélé	Etuhu	Murphy	Ruiz	Dempsey		
Sat 10	Swansea City	A	Premier League	L 2-0	19,296	Schwarzer	Kelly	Hangeland	Senderos	J.A. Riise	Dembélé	Etuhu	Dempsey	Davies	Johnson		
Wed 14	Odense BK	H	Europa League	D 2-2	15,757	Etheridge	Kelly	Hangeland	Hughes	Briggs	Dempsey ¹	Gecov	Baird	Frei ¹	Dembélé		
Sat 17	Bolton Wanderers	H	Premier League	3pm													
Wed 21	Manchester United	H	Premier League	8pm													
Mon 26	Chelsea	A	Premier League	1pm													
Sat 31	Norwich City	A	Premier League	3pm													
January 2012																	
Mon 2	Arsenal	H	Premier League	5.30pm (Sky)													
Sat 7	Charlton Athletic	H	FA Cup 3rd Rnd	3pm													
Sat 14	Blackburn Rovers	A	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 21	Newcastle United	H	Premier League	3pm													
February 2012																	
Wed 1	West Bromwich Albion	H	Premier League	8pm													
Sat 4	Manchester City	A	Premier League	5.30pm (ESPN)													
Sat 11	Stoke City	H	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 25	Queens Park Rangers	A	Premier League	3pm													
March 2012																	
Sat 3	Wolverhampton Wanderers	H	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 10	Aston Villa	A	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 17	Swansea City	H	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 24	Manchester United	A	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 31	Norwich City	H	Premier League	3pm													
April 2012																	
Sat 7	Bolton Wanderers	A	Premier League	3pm													
Mon 9	Chelsea	H	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 14	Liverpool	A	Premier League	12.45pm													
Sat 21	Wigan Athletic	H	Premier League	3pm													
Sat 28	Everton	A	Premier League	3pm													
May 2012																	
Sat 5	Sunderland	H	Premier League	3pm													
Sun 13	Tottenham Hotspur	A	Premier League	3pm													

THIS WEEKEND'S OTHER BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES
(3pm unless stated otherwise)

TODAY
Blackburn Rovers v West Bromwich Albion
Everton v Norwich City
Newcastle United v Swansea City
Wolverhampton Wanderers v Stoke City
Wigan Athletic v Chelsea, 5:30pm

TOMORROW
QPR v Manchester United, 12pm
Aston Villa v Liverpool, 2:05pm
Tottenham Hotspur v Sunderland
Manchester City v Arsenal, 4:10pm

KEY: =UEFA Europa League =Carling Cup, =FA Cup, Scorer ^{1,2,3} = goals scored

NOTES...

Table correct to 16.12.11

SUBSTITUTES

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES

Zamora	BH Riise Sidwell Dalla Valle	Stockdale, Kelly, Senderos, Greening
Zamora	Frei BH Riise Dalla Valle	Stockdale, Halliche, Smith
Zamora ¹	BH Riise Sidwell Donegan	Stockdale, Kelly, Senderos, Halliche
Zamora ¹	Frei Etuhu B.H. Riise	Etheridge, Kelly, Baird, Trotta
Zamora	Sidwell  Kasami	Somogyi, Kelly, Senderos, Gecov, B.H. Riise
Zamora	Dembélé, Briggs  Kasami	Etheridge, Kelly, Baird, Gecov
Zamora	Dembélé 	Etheridge, Kelly, Baird, Briggs, Sidwell, Kasami
Zamora 	Dembélé, Etuhu, Johnson	Etheridge, Senderos, J.A. Riise, Gecov
Johnson	Dembélé  Sidwell	Etheridge, Kelly, Briggs, Gecov, Frei
Johnson	Briggs, Kasami, Etuhu	Etheridge, Kelly, Senderos, Gecov
Dembélé	Johnson	Etheridge, Kelly, Senderos, Etuhu, Gecov, Frei
Zamora ¹	Kelly, Dembélé, Johnson	Etheridge, Grygera, Gecov, Kasami
Johnson ¹	Zamora, Duff, Senderos 	Etheridge, Kelly, Gecov, Sá
Zamora ¹	Kasami, Ruiz	Etheridge, Grygera, Senderos, Gecov, Sá
Sá	Dembélé, Ruiz, Sidwell	Etheridge, Halliche, Kacaniklic, Riise
Sá	Ruiz, Etuhu,	Etheridge, Kelly, Briggs, Senderos, Gecov
Johnson ²	Sidwell, Sá	Etheridge, Grygera, Baird, JA Riise, Frei
Zamora ¹	Ruiz, Etuhu, Sá	Etheridge, Kelly, Senderos, Duff
Zamora 	Duff  Etuhu, Sá	Etheridge, Kelly, Briggs, Kasami
Sá	Kasami, Sidwell, Frei	Etheridge, Baird, JA Riise, Trotta
Zamora	Ruiz ¹ , Hughes	Etheridge, Kelly, Etuhu, Duff, Frei
Zamora	Etuhu  Ruiz, Duff 	Etheridge, Kelly, Briggs, Kasami
Zamora 	Sidwell ¹ , Frei, Kasami	Etheridge, Grygera, Briggs, Gecov
Zamora	Kelly, Ruiz, Etuhu	Etheridge, Briggs, Frei, Kasami
Zamora	Johnson, Ruiz, Briggs	Etheridge, Gecov, Kacaniklic, Kasami
Zamora 	Kasami, Johnson	Etheridge, Briggs, Hughes, Gecov, Frei
Zamora	Frei, Kasami, Sá	Etheridge, Briggs, Senderos, Gecov
Zamora	Johnson, Gecov	Etheridge, Hughes, Briggs, Kasami, Frei
Ruiz	Frei, Sá	Etheridge, Hughes, Briggs, Gecov, BH Riise
Zamora	Duff, Sá	Somogyi, JA Riise, Senderos, Etuhu, Kasami



 = Yellow Card,  = Red Card, Purple=First sub, Green=Second sub, Blue=Third sub

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE 2011/12

BARCLAYS PREMIER LEAGUE

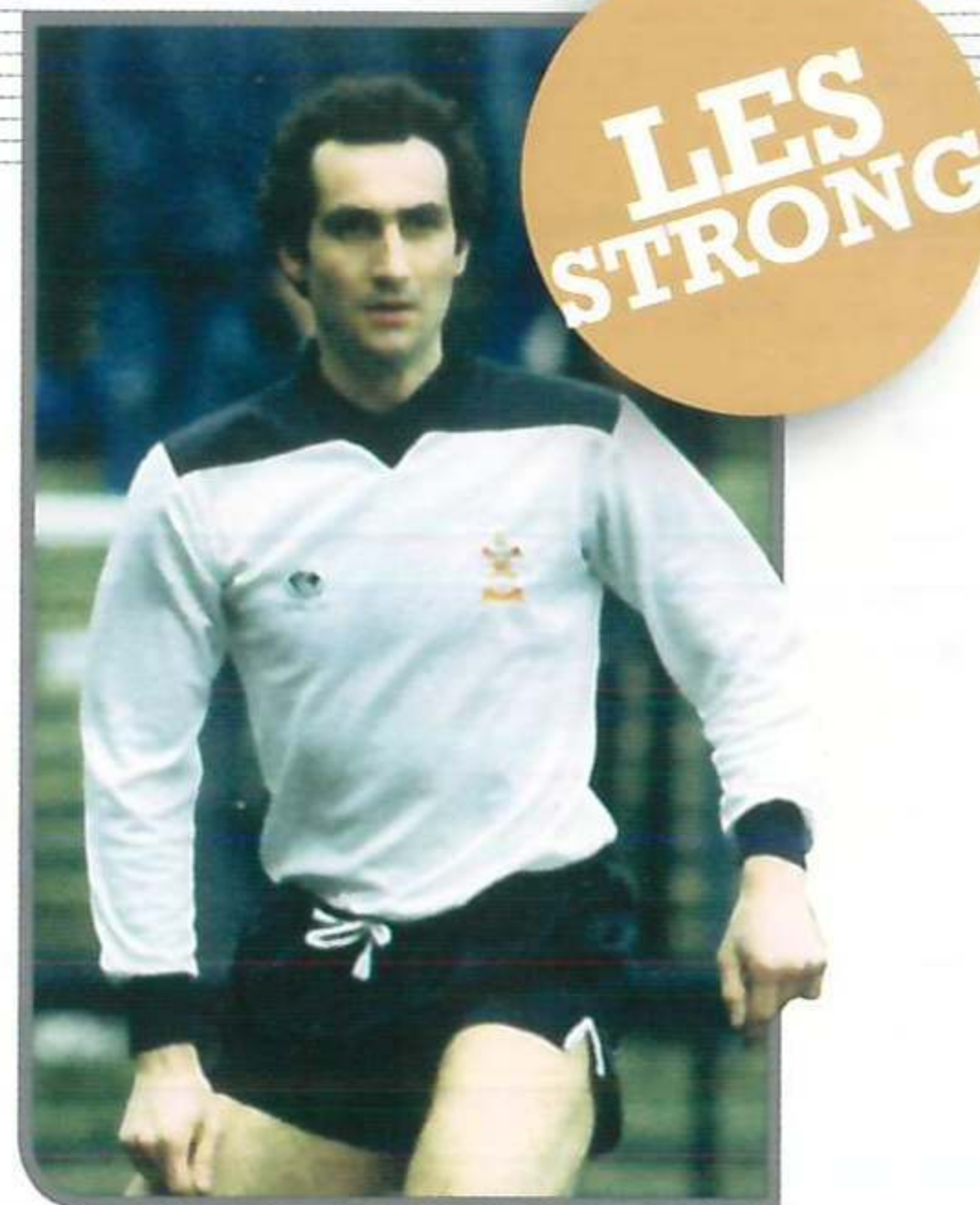
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS	Top League Scorers
1 Man City	15	7	0	0	24	4	5	2	1	25	11	34	38	Aguero 11
2 Man Utd	15	6	1	1	23	11	5	2	0	12	3	21	36	Rooney 11
3 Chelsea	15	6	0	2	21	12	4	1	2	12	6	15	31	Lampard, Sturridge 7
4 Tottenham	14	5	0	1	15	7	5	1	2	15	11	12	31	Adebayor 8
5 Arsenal	15	6	1	1	14	5	3	1	3	17	18	8	29	van Persie 15
6 Liverpool	15	3	5	0	10	6	4	0	3	8	7	5	26	Suarez 5
7 Newcastle	15	4	2	1	10	8	3	3	2	11	11	2	26	Ba 11
8 Stoke	15	4	2	2	12	9	2	1	4	4	15	-8	21	Walters 4
9 Aston Villa	15	3	2	2	10	7	1	5	2	8	12	-1	19	Agbonlahor, Bent 5
10 Norwich	15	4	2	2	16	12	1	2	4	8	16	-4	19	Holt, Morison 6
11 Swansea	15	4	3	1	10	2	0	2	5	6	18	-4	17	Graham 5
12 Everton	14	2	1	4	7	9	3	0	4	8	9	-3	16	Vellios 3
13 QPR	15	1	4	2	6	10	3	0	5	9	16	-11	16	Helguson 6
14 Fulham	15	2	3	2	12	9	1	3	4	4	9	-2	15	Dempsey 4
15 West Brom	15	2	1	5	7	11	2	2	3	7	12	-9	15	Long 5
16 Sunderland	15	2	3	3	12	10	1	2	4	6	8	0	14	Larsson 5
17 Wolves	15	3	1	3	10	11	1	1	6	6	17	-12	14	Fletcher 6
18 Wigan	15	1	2	4	8	15	2	1	5	6	14	-15	12	Di Santo 4
19 Blackburn	15	2	0	5	10	15	0	4	4	12	19	-12	10	Yakubu 9
20 Bolton	15	1	0	7	10	21	2	0	5	10	15	-16	9	Klasnic 7

FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB APPEARANCES AND GOALSCORERS, 2011/12

	LEAGUE		CUPS		UEFA		SEASON TOTAL		FULHAM CAREER	
	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G	A	G
Chris Baird	10	-	1	-	7	-	18	-	114+19	2
Matthew Briggs	1+1	-	1	-	10+2	1	12+3	1	16+4	1
Lauri Dalla Valle*	-	-	-	-	0+2	-	0+2	-	0+2	-
Simon Davies	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	147+15	17
Moussa Dembélé	12+3	1	0+1	-	5+2	-	17+6	1	43+8	6
Clint Dempsey	15	4	-	-	7	3	31	7	161+39	44
Tom Donegan	-	-	-	-	0+1	-	0+1	-	0+1	-
Damien Duff	7+2	-	-	-	12+2	3	19+4	3	89+12	16
Neil Etheridge	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
Dickson Etuhu	6+5	-	-	-	9+3	-	15+8	-	93+21	6
Kerim Frei	0+1	-	1	-	2+5	1	3+6	1	3+6	1
Marcel Gecov	0+1	-	1	-	2	-	3+1	-	3+1	-
Jonathan Greening**	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	31+18	2
Zdenek Grygera	5	-	1	-	1	-	7	-	7	-
Rafik Halliche	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0+3	-
Brede Hangeland	15	-	-	-	14	-	29	-	181	11
Aaron Hughes	6+1	-	-	-	10	1	16+1	1	189+3	2
Andrew Johnson	7+5	3	-	-	12+1	8	19+6	11	83+20	27
Pajtim Kasami	3+2	-	1	-	3+6	-	7+8	-	7+8	-
Stephen Kelly	3+2	-	1	-	7	-	11+2	-	40+7	-
Danny Murphy	14	1	-	-	11	3	25	4	180+7	26
Bjørn Helge Riise	-	-	-	-	0+3	-	0+3	-	15+19	-
John Arne Riise	13	-	-	-	5	-	18	-	18	-
Bryan Ruiz	4+7	1	1	-	-	-	5+7	1	5+7	1
Orlando Sá	1+3	-	1	-	1+3	-	3+6	-	3+6	-
Carlos Salcido*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25+1	-
Mark Schwarzer	15	-	1	-	13	-	29	-	164	-
Philippe Senderos	7	-	1	-	4+1	-	12+1	-	14+1	-
Steve Sidwell	9+1	-	0+1	-	5+5	2	14+7	2	26+9	4
David Stockdale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-
Bobby Zamora	11	3	0+1	-	10+1	2	21+2	5	112+14	35

* = On loan ** = Now left Club

IN EVERY ISSUE A
FULHAM LEGEND FROM
EACH DECADE SHARES
HIS VIEWS ON FOOTBALL
TODAY. THIS WEEK
IT'S LES STRONG...



Life after football can
take a player down many
interesting paths.

A lot has been said and written about how players react during those days, weeks, months and even years after they call time on their careers as a professional footballer. For many, it can be a very daunting experience.

I was fortunate to have bought my own business before I retired – I thought ahead. Like a lot of players back then I bought a pub, which I owned for nine years in total, although for a couple of years in between I was actually the Catering Manager here at Fulham.

The Chairman at the time, Ernie Clay, offered me the position and having accepted it I quickly enrolled

the services of a close friend who was a master chef – although that didn't stop us from ordering one too many pies on the day of our first game.

It was a friendly against Chelsea and we estimated that with 15,000-20,000 fans expected that we would need between 10,000 and 15,000 pies. Leading up to the game we were swamped in the things – only to be told without much warning that the game had been cancelled!

I spent two or three seasons in that role, and there was never a dull moment. But I suppose that has been the story of my life in general!

Having retired from the game in 1984, I wasn't one of those that found it difficult to adjust. A lot of players back then had been with one club or another from as young as 15 and knew nothing else.

A lot of people say that it is like entering the 'real world', and that is true in many ways. I remember hearing a story about Peter Storey of Arsenal and for a brief spell Fulham too, just after he retired. The majority of travelling he did was as a player, but the first time he went to the airport on his own he just didn't know what to do! I'm hoping that he knew he had to take his passport at least...

But that's the thing, you get so used to the football environment – where you are well looked after, so I can see why some struggle when they finally have to hang up their boots.

Talking of airports, I am also a qualified private pilot. It is a bit of an unusual pastime, but I love it.

My wife bought me a trial lesson a while ago, I did a few more and very quickly I was hooked. I completed

my flying exams - which were very difficult I'd like to add - and now regularly take to the skies.

I quite often fly somewhere for lunch, and I've also gone as far as France too, but only on a clear day – my licence doesn't permit me to fly when it's cloudy. I'm still looking for people to come up with me. I think they're a little worried about the loop-the-loops that I do!

I have stayed in the game to some extent though. I managed the Caribbean's Anguilla for three years in the early '90s, while at the same time as looking after terminally ill patients in America I also coached college students.

I still enjoy the coaching and, when time allows, I coach a team in Mauritius called Petite Rivière Noire (little black river).

I've done a wide range of things since my playing days, and it never surprises me to find out what some of the boys from back then are up to now, although arguably the most obscure is fellow Legend Columnist Gordon Davies who owns his own rat catching company – I mean how do you get into that?!

Like Gordon too, I'm one of the Club's matchday hosts and that is something I am very proud to do. With my connection to the Club dating back almost 42 years, I like to think that I played my part as a player, but now I like to believe that I am playing my part off the field too.

I get a real buzz from working the Haynes Lounge and, while Saturday afternoons may not be quite the same as when I was a player, with the Club doing as well as it ever has, it is fantastic to be part of it still.

Les was the national coach
of Anguilla for three years.



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☐	39	JOE RILEY

MATCH OFFICIALS

REFEREE:

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ASSISTANT REFEREE:

MR. S. BARROW

ASSISTANT REFEREE:

MR. M. MULLARKEY

FOURTH OFFICIAL:

MR. A. D'URSO

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